

Wise County Messenger.

"More than Double the Circulation of Any Other Newspaper Published in Decatur."---Messenger

VOL. XXXI.—NO 50

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SUMMER NORMAL TO BE HELD HERE

Interesting session of Wise County Teachers Held Here Saturday

The Wise county teachers' institute held a very fine session here last Saturday. In the morning a regular program was carried out, and at eleven a joint session was held with the trustees to hear Hon. W. E. Fitzgerald. Judge Fitzgerald's address on education was indeed a master-piece and was greatly enjoyed. He is a great thinker and is plain in his advocacy of general improvement of the school system. At 3:30 the teachers and trustees met to hear Hon. Clarence Ousley, editor of the Ft. Worth Record. Mr. Ousley is one of the most prominent men in the educational affairs of the state, and he is a very pleasing and practical speaker who carries conviction with his arguments. His address dealt with many proposed educational reforms, and his clear-cut propositions showed his great study and knowledge of the needs of the state public school system.

A business session of the institute was held, during which Decatur was selected as the place for holding the next summer normal, and the generous offer by the trustees of the use of the Baptist college buildings for the normal was accepted. Prof. J. B. Bird, superintendent of the Chico schools, was elected conductor. The selection of Prof. Bird as conductor insures success for the next normal, as he is one of our best instructors, and is an untiring worker in school affairs. An efficient faculty for the normal was chosen as follows; M. G. Bryant of Boyd, Frank Wallace of Rhome, W. E. Hutchins of Slidell, Misses Effie Atkins of Paradise and Josie Yeary of Alvord, co-workers in primary department.

The following resolutions were adopted by the institute, also by the trustees' conference.

Resolutions of Teachers' Institute. Whereas the Honorable C. V. Terrell, and the Honorable A. D. Rogers are the representatives of Wise county in the coming session of the state legislature at Austin, and are friends of the cause of education in every sense of the word,

Therefore be it resolved by the Wise County Teachers' Institute now in session that our said representatives are requested to introduce and support a bill in the legislature requiring a County Trustees Conference to be held at some place in each county at least once in each month of the current school term. The dates of said meetings or conference to be fixed by the County Superintendent of the county.

Resolution 2. Be it further resolved that it is the sense of this institute that said law as above mentioned, should make it compulsory that each board of trustees in each county have at least one representative at said conference or meetings.

New Superintendent State Building and Grounds.

D. Conley is a retired physician and merchant of Decatur. For twenty years he has been a champion of Democratic principles and policies and is a loyal supporter of Mr. Conley in Wise county, having been largely instrumental in securing for the gubernatorial nominee a vote of considerable proportion in a county which is almost totally prohibitive in sentiment.

Conley was born on a farm in Rutherford county, Tennessee, Nov. 7, 1841, and remained until young manhood in the rural environment,

when he began the study of medicine under a local physician at Columbia, Ky., and afterward took the medical course in the University of Louisiana at New Orleans.

In 1868 he married Mattie J. Mitchell of Rutherford County, Tenn. and in after years practiced his profession in the states of Missouri, Louisiana and Texas, leaving Lamar county, Texas, for Milam, Gibson county, Tenn., in 1890, where he returned from the practice of medicine and entered the mercantile business. He came with his family to Decatur in 1888 and has resided here since. Some five or six years ago he retired as a merchant.

The Railroad Situation

The railroad situation demands further immediate action upon the part of Decatur if the railroad is secured. The situation as outlined to us by the committee having the matter in charge is as follows: The amount of the bonus required, \$30,000, has been raised and is ready to turn over to the promoters. A surplus of \$11,000 has been secured in notes to go toward paying for the right of way, but it cannot be ascertained at present if this will be a sufficient amount. It is believed by the committee this amount will be sufficient, but it cannot be justly asked by any of our citizenship that they sign a bond guaranteeing the delivery of the right of way which is necessary when it cannot possibly be known what said right of way will cost.

While it is the responsible duty of the entire citizenship to guarantee the delivery of this right of way, it seems impracticable to produce an instrument which will have that effect. As a matter of convenience to the Decatur people, and with the public spirited purpose in view of securing the railroad for Decatur, Messrs. Lillard, Rogers, McMurray, Carswell and others came forward and announced their willingness to individually sign a bond guaranteeing the right of way which will secure the road for Decatur. But it is reasonable and just that these men should seek to be indemnified for any loss they might sustain beyond their proportionate share of the expense which the right of way might cost in excess of the \$11,000 which has been donated. As was stated, the committee believes the \$11,000 will be equal to the emergency and that it will not be necessary for any person to donate an amount additional to what he has already subscribed. But it would be neither wise nor safe for them to sign the guarantee bond, nor can we justly ask it of them, when it cannot be established if the amount raised will be sufficient for the purposes. So for the purpose of indemnification and as a measure of precaution, a subscription list is being circulated to give the people an opportunity to subscribe their proportionate amounts of the possible burden. It is a reasonable measure and one that the people should sign willingly, but the pertinent matter is that such action must be taken before the railroad is secured for Decatur.

Messrs. Lillard, Rogers and others cannot be blamed for refusing to turn over the right-of-way bond without some hope of being indemnified for what it may be necessary for them to pay for the right of way above \$11,000.

This last amount will probably be sufficient. The people across whose land the road will pass are seeing that Decatur is being hard pushed to secure the road, and it is not believed they will be extortionate in their demands. Some of them also are putting the community under their obligation by donating the right of way outright.

A Double Purpose.

"They say that melody will make cows yield more milk."

"Then the installation of a sextet of operatic milkmaids might increase the dairy output and also keep the boys on the farm."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

GOOD LIST BELONG TO TRUCK GROWERS

Preparations Made For Planting Many Acres in Paying Crops

Another good meeting of the truck growers' association was held last Saturday. The report of the special seed-buying committee was read and adopted. The association adopted the following as the principal crops to be raised: Alabama sweet water-melons, Rocky Ford improved cantaloupes, Dwarf Champion tomatoes, Davis wax beans, Early Ohio and Bliss Triumph Southern-grown Irish potatoes. These will constitute the principal crops, but members are at liberty to plant any kind of truck crops, for which active efforts will be made to obtain a market.

Quotations on seed prices were read and the seed firm with which the association will deal was selected. The prices seemed to please all present and many subscribed for seed at this meeting. The secretary will advise each member by mail as to the price and quantity of seed required for an acre's planting, and it is hoped all members will immediately subscribe for seed, so that the bulk order may soon be turned in to be filled.

The committee acting in these matters was retained to buy the seed and to decide further place and date for next meeting.

MEMBERS OF TRUCK GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

G P Stevens, Chas Rosenberg, J M Kerr, Luke Huddleston, Wm Robinson, Roy Rosenberg, Wm Rhodes, A B Farrington, C Y McDonald, R W Ray, G H Vaughn, W H Hodges, John Gentry, A C Spencer, K Thomas, Gordon New, Jack Rieger, M Belew, J B Hunt, Jim Booth, Buck Bowen, John Hughes, B Brown, Cliff Cates, Homer Williams, Ira Stepp, J A Penn, B F Lawrence, W M Stevenson, B W Cook, John Spencer, H C Breedlove, M F Spain, F T Kerr, J H Hobbs, J B Walker, Levi Kerr, Bob Ellis, G S Privett, Sam Taggart, C R Terry, W H Dunnaway, S M Ragle, M L Watts, John Dixon.

From "An Observer."

Chico, Texas, Dec., 12.

Editor Messenger:

I have just read an article in your paper from "Occasional Writer" in which he attempts to answer "A Boy From the Forks of the Creek," and claims to have annihilated "Constant reader" from Chico.

Now, if abuse and flighty assertions of a hysterical nature declarations prompted by a high strung temperament, wrought up to a nervous tension in a fruitless effort to justify a hopeless case—if all this is argument, then he has succeeded manfully in his efforts—and more. He has proved to the world that the blood of the Spartan age is not wholly extinct.

The Soartan master had "Perioeci" or (dwellers around)—subjugated natives who out numbered their masters three to one; they were allowed to retain their land, but were compelled to pay tribute rents and to depend upon the action of their masters regardless of the nature of their oppressions. The "Heliots," or lower class, had no rights which their masters were bound to respect. Have we?

The informed man never questions Joe Bailey's intellectual attainments. His magnificent personality, his brilliant magnetic appearance secured for him, and has kept him in the highest office within the gift of this great state. He has had every opportunity to endear himself to the hearts of the people, but in the lan-

guage of the poet, "of all sad words of tongue or pen the saddest are these it might have been."

It was very unfortunate for a man of his standing and intellectual attainment to have his name unearthed in the secret code of a notorious and corrupt corporation--The Waters-Pierce Oil Company. When his questionable methods were exposed, instead of blushing with shame, bowing his head in mortification, as any self-respecting man would do, he proceeds, with all the brazenry of the ancient tyrant, to condemn to the lower regions all of those who question his right to serve his corporation and his constituents at the same time.

In all matters concerning public affairs self interest seem to be his guide; he does what he thinks will aggrandize himself and glorify his own name.

Louis Fourteenth had as a maxim, "I am the state," Frederick, the despot said, "I am the first servant of the state," and he denied people the right to question his motives or inquire into his methods. Just so with Joe Bailey.

But, our Joe Bailey certainly played whaley; and he kept out of the pen---it will take some one brighter than "An Occasional Writer" to square his actions with true-loving men.

AN OBSERVER.

Postoffice Robbed.

About 3 o'clock Friday morning the safe in the postoffice at Bridgeport was blown and about \$150.00 in cash taken.

The robbery was undoubtedly committed by experts, as the hole drilled in the safe showed the skillful use of a good instrument. The robber, or robbers, made a clean-get away, at least for the time being, but local officers began work on the case immediately after the discovery of the crime, and later United State officers joined in the investigation, and if the evil doers were not unusually skillful in covering their tracks they are in danger of being brought to realize the fact that "the way of the transgressor is hard."—Bridgeport News.

Paradise.

Hugh Woody shipped a car load of cattle to Fort Worth Tuesday.

Rev. Matthews of Fort Worth, preached Sunday morning and night at the Christian church.

Clarence Kidd of Springtown spent a short time in Paradise Sunday evening.

Charlie Pearson of Graham came down and spent Sunday with home-folks.

Ed Riley and family left Saturday for Wellington, Texas, where they will make their future home.

Will Howard was in Fort Worth Friday.

Misses Mary Youngblood and Lara Read were Fort Worth visitors Thursday.

Mr. Tenney of Bridgeport was visiting relatives here Saturday.

Several teachers from here attended the Institute in Decatur Saturday.

J. Shook shipped a car load of cattle to Ft. Worth Monday.

Mrs. Barrack, an old settler of Wise county, died at her home near town Monday and was buried in the Paradise cemetery Tuesday. Her many friends regret the loss of such a good old lady.

Christmas Cards Free.

I want to send free to every reader of the Messenger 10 beautiful embossed, colored Christmas post cards, all different, without any advertising on them whatever.

I do this because I want people to know the high grade cards I carry at manufacturers' prices. If you prefer beautiful New Year's cards say so when you write. All I ask is that you send me 4 cents in stamps to cover postage. Address, C. T. Johnston, Pres., Dept., 1 Rochester, N. Y.

Greer, The Tailor does all kinds of tailor work. Old hats made new. Tailored suits and overcoats \$12 and up. Second door west of postoffice.

TRUSTEES MEET IN INTERESTING SESSION

Big Banquet to Legislative Committee Given by De- catur Citizens

The meeting of the Wise county trustees' conference which was held last Saturday was a success in every respect, and an instructive and entertaining program was carried out. The banquet given by the business men of Decatur to the legislative committee of the conference Friday night was attended by over a hundred guests. The elegant repast prepared by Messrs Workman at their cafe delighted the appetites of the partakers. After the repast Hon. A. D. Rogers took his appointed post as toast-master, and the crowd was regaled with varying brands of oratory by Judge Fitzgerald of Jacksboro, Supt. D. J. Simpson, Robert Carswell, Jr., Rev. L. S. Barton, C. C. Jones, Dr. S. J. Petty, Hon. C. V. Terrell, Rev. J. L. Ward, F. J. Ford and W. C. Carver. The speeches were all fine, mostly dealing with educational problems, but frequently indulging in humor and pathos. The legislative committee, who composed the honored guests of the occasion, were: D. B. Gilliland, Tom Milligan, of Greenwood, J. C. Vanmeter, of Rhome, R. H. Beall, Alf Fulgim, T. J. Mann of Paradise, John Seagreaves of Crafton, Milt Covington, of Alvord, Dr. Wilkerson of Chico, and Ed Hamilton of Boyd.

On Saturday this community made a report of the following resolutions, which were adopted by the conference:

To the Chairman of Trustees Conference:

We, your Committee on legislation beg to report as follows:

1. We favor the extension of the scholastic age from seven to twenty-one years of age.
2. We believe that education should be made compulsory for all children between the ages of eight and sixteen for at least four months in each year.
3. We favor a more adequate law requiring that agriculture be taught in the schools and that its provisions be made mandatory.
4. We believe the agricultural and mechanical college should not be dependent upon any other institution for financial support and hence that all appropriations for its maintenance be direct.
5. We favor the establishment of four subordinate Agricultural and Industrial schools, one for each of the four quarters of the state.

Locally we would recommend:

1. That our county be redistricted into school districts and that in the redistricting less regard be had to conveniences and accessibility to the school house than to the building of better and more efficient schools.
2. That a propaganda be started having for its object the erection of better school houses in the several districts and their furnishing with better and more modern facilities.
3. We favor a repeal of the law allowing teachers pay for attending Teachers' Institute.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. B. GILLILAND, Char.

The next session of the Trustees' conference will be held at Bridgeport on the second Saturday in February.

See our big cut prices for next week. We are going to make such low prices for thirty days to insure the largest trade we have ever had for December. Jones D. G. Co.

There are no substitutes for Light Crust flour.

List every thing you have to sell with Bailey Bro., Decatur, Texas.

TIMELY HINTS FOR FARMERS

Getting Winter Eggs.

One great essential in getting winter eggs is to make the hens entirely comfortable.

Remove every useless article and leave the floors entirely free from anything that will obstruct their free use as a scratching place. Clean down the walls and if necessary whitewash or spray thoroughly. Clean the dropping boards and make repairs on them and the roosts, so that droppings can be easily remove at all times during the winter. Remove every bit of litter from the floor and if it is a dirt floor take out at least a couple of inches of the old dirt, which should be replaced with clean loam. Make ready a corner in each pen that can be used as a dusting box. This can be kept supplied with the fine siftings from hard coal ashes and will be much enjoyed by the whole flock. If it can be placed where the sun will shine on it, so much the better.—American Cultivator.

Notes of the Hog Lot.

Never feed corn alone to hogs. It is false economy.

A sow should be in a profitable condition when she is bred.

A feed of oats occasionally will be polished by the brood sow.

Protection from inclement weather will make the feed go further.

Young hogs can be fattened more profitably than those that are older.

Brood sows should have two pens—one for feeding and one for sleeping.

The first litter is not always an index of the brood sow's profitability.

The easier a feed is digested the greater will be the gain from the feed.

Pigs often become crooked in the legs from remaining too long on a hard floor.

Prevention of Milk Fever.

The best way to treat milk fever is to prevent it. While a cow should be well fed previous to freshening, she should not be fed on too concentrated food. Good hay, bran, a little oilmeal, some potatoes or other roots to keep her bowels free and exercise every day make the proper regimen. At freshening do not milk all the milk out of the udder for the first few milkings. These precautions will bring the cow in all right.

Sheep as Guards Against Weeds.

There is no class of live stock that looks so well on the farm as a flock of well cared for sheep, and no other stock will take as good care of the farm. Sheep may be regarded as gleaners of profit, for they will eat almost all kinds of weeds and briars. And, then, the weed seeds eaten by sheep will not germinate in the manure and when once destroyed by eating are entirely destroyed.

SHEEP WITH STOMACH WORMS

Symptoms and Treatment of This Dread Disease.

When sheep are suffering from the presence of stomach worms the first noticeable symptom is a lassitude, with a desire to keep behind when the flock is being driven. An occasional stumble will be noticed if hurried. On being caught and the wool parted the skin, instead of being of a pink color, will be found of a bluish white. The veins of the eyeball will be of a blue color, with a watery buttermilk look to the eye. These are the characteristic symptoms of the stomach worm, and the sooner this sheep or lamb is dosed the better.

Now about the gasoline treatment. Gasoline needs to be given with extreme care or it will kill the sheep. A tablespoonful is a full dose for a mature sheep, less for a lamb, and always give it after a fast of twelve or more hours. It must be mixed with oil, usually raw linseed, and not less than four times as much oil as gasoline. Then put in a full half pint of milk (skim-milk will do). Then always set the sheep or lamb upon its buttock to give the dose, and as gasoline will not mix with either oil or milk it must be shaken until the very moment it is slowly poured down the sheep, or it will strangle, or the gasoline will injure the mucous membranes of the stomachs. Some have advised giving the dose every morning for three mornings, but I am convinced this is unnecessary. Two mornings in succession are sufficient.—C. V. Smead, V. S., in National Stockman.

Profits in Live Stock.

In the long run exclusive grain farming never pays, as it exhausts the

soil and gives nothing in return. It will never pay until we learn to eat corn and live ourselves. The live stock farmer not only gets his annual profits, but he adds the value of his farm each year in the process of increasing it, as does the grain farmer.

Feeding the Horse.

There are not many horses which can stand sudden changes in either quantity or kind of feed. Violation of this rule brings sudden disaster—in fact, underfeeding is much to be preferred to overfeeding.

HOW TO DOSE A COW.

Directions For Administering Medicine to the Animal.

The bottle most commonly employed, and the best glass bottle as regards shape and strength, is a quart champagne, but a better appliance still is the tin drenching bottle sold by the agricultural supply stores. It cannot be broken and is provided with an air hole which secures a steady and even flow of medicine from the neck.

In administering the dose the common practice is to straighten and slightly elevate the head by grasping the nose with the forefinger and thumb of the left hand, but this is calculated to interfere with respiration and is unnecessary except in the case of very rough animals, which are certainly rendered more amenable to reason by the pressure of the muzzle.

A better plan with the quiet animal is for the person giving the medicine to stand with his back against the right shoulder of the cow, slightly fix the head to the right and, passing the left arm over the face, place the hand in the left side of the mouth with the fingers against the palate, and give the dose with the bottle held in the right hand, introducing only the nozzle and allowing the contents to run out with a continuous steady flow.

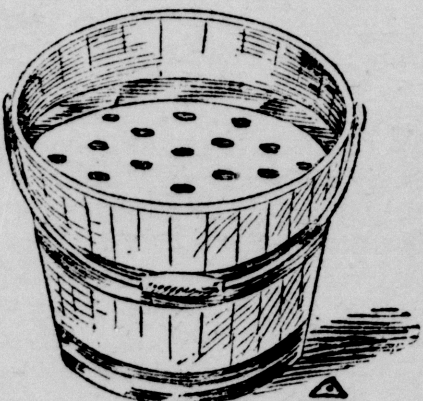
Where an assistant is necessary to the holding of the animal he should stand on the left side and grasp both horns, or if the beast is very unruly take the right horn in the right hand and grasp the nasal septum firmly with the left, turning the head in the direction of the administrator on the right side of the animal and avoiding too much elevation.

With very rough or wild cattle an instrument for grasping the nasal septum, called "bulldogs," is employed, but a couple of determined men can generally give the drink while this instrument is being fixed. Generally what may be called the quiet method is the easiest and most expeditious, and the expert manipulator rarely needs any assistance in the dosing.—American Cultivator.

Economy demands that we save everything that has been produced if it has any value as a food for man or animals. The fact that it is not salable need not deter us. Many products that are not salable have utility on the farm.

Easy Way of Watering Chicks.

It is generally very hard to keep enough water in small pans for the little chicks to drink. If a large pan is used they are apt to fall in and drown. So I have invented this drinking vessel, which I find most useful. Take



DRINKING PAIL FOR YOUNG CHICKS.

[From Farm and Fireside.]

milk crocks, rather shallow wooden buckets or anything that is smaller toward the bottom than at the top. Then make a lid or "float" of pine board that will go down about halfway in the vessel when empty. Bore the lid full of holes and by its floating on the top the chicks can hop on to it and drink. As the water is consumed the "float" settles deeper in the vessel, and if enough chicks should get on it and sink it any the lid wouldn't go down deep enough to drown any of them.—Farm and Fireside.

Begin now to lay plans for a better rotation of crops next year.

Best Kind of Potato.

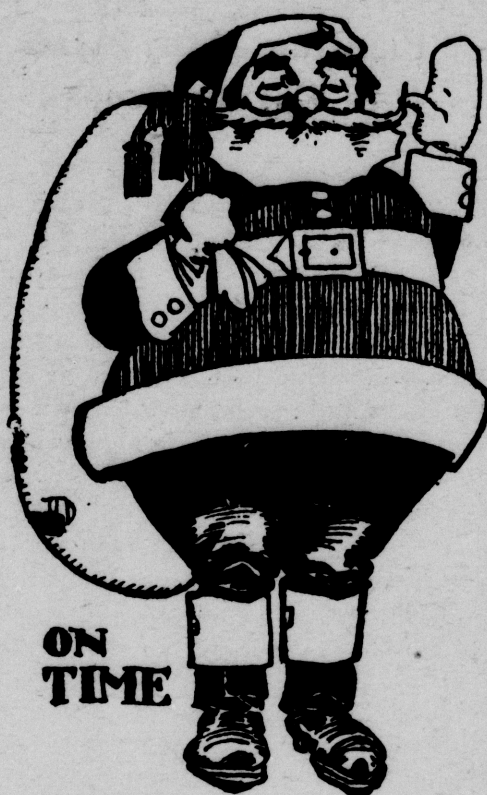
Investigation into the nutritive values of the red, white, yellow and violet varieties of potatoes shows that the violet fleshed potatoes stand highest.

Live Stock Notes.

Be careful not to overheat mares

A Few Christmas Gift Suggestions

You doubtless know how difficult it is to make selections of gifts for your relatives or friends at Xmas time. It is with a desire to aid you that I here enumerate some of the hundreds of appropriate and useful presents to be found at my store. All First-class and lasting articles.



We are on time with presents for everybody, both the old and young. Come today and make selections before the stock is sold out. Read this list of gifts.



Watch Chains

Watch Fobs

La Valerie

Necklaces

Scarfpins

Collar Buttons

Comb Set

Brooches

Locketts

Earrings

Belt Pins

Rings, Set

Rings, Plain

Bracelets

Cameo Bracelets

Waist Sets

Bar Pins

Hat Pins

Umbrellas

Oold Pens

Beauty Pins

Air Guns

Books

Poems

Pictures

Alarm Clocks

Bibles

Dolls

Collar Boxes

Toilet Cases

Albums

Mirrors

Statues

Glove Boxes

Briar Pipes

Candy

Medallions

Games

Cut Glass

Silver Ware

Watches

Rings

Cuff Buttons

Jabot Pins

Purses

Vases

Latest Works of Fiction

All Late Magazines

Fancy Stationery

Perfumes, all odors

Cuff and Collar Boxes

Cuff and Collar Bags

Manicure Sets

Tourist Cases

Handkerchief Boxes

Meerscham Pipes

Waterman Fountain Pen

Collar Buttons

Emblem Pins

Emblem Charms

Post Card Albums

Smoking Sets

Finest Cigars

Shaving Sets

Military Sets

Music Rolls

Manicure Sets

Jewelry Boxes

C. B. GUNN,

The Up-To-Date Druggist.

East Side,

Decatur, Texas

that are suckling colts.

A team that works in the field all week should be allowed to rest on Sunday.

The farmer who has not time to fuss with a young colt had better go into some other business.

Many of the difficulties experienced in handling the spring litters may be avoided if the brood sows are properly fed and cared for in the winter.

The value of rape as a food for calves is not well understood. If it were much more would be sown.

Make friends with your horses. They will enjoy your sociability as well as you will. Sensible horses like to be talked to by people.

All sheep love alfalfa, either green or dry. The very nature of the animal makes alfalfa a suitable food for it. Sheep need foods rich in protein.

Raw cabbage makes an excellent feed for cattle, but it cannot be safely fed to horses. Mangels, carrots, beets and turnips will, however, be found good for both horses and cattle if fed raw. They are named here in order of their value.

"I heard that your rich uncle gave you a good sized check for Christmas," says the man with the sharp nose and the interrogative eyes.

"Yes," answers the man with the square chin and the glad smile.

"I suppose as rich a man as he is could send you a pretty big check."

"Yes. This was a good sized one, for a fact."

"If it's a fair question, how big was it?"

"Three inches wide by eight inches long. He has them engraved for himself specially, you know."—Judge.

A Bad Lot.

When charged with being drunk and disorderly and asked what he had to say for himself the prisoner gazed pensively at the magistrate, smoothed down a remnant of gray hair and said: "Your honor, man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn. I'm not as debased as Swift, as profligate as Byron, as dissipated as Poe, as debauched as—"

"That will do!" thundered the magistrate. "Ten days! And, officer, a list of those names and run 'em. They're as bad a lot as he is."—Don Mail.

Populist Presides.

Austin, April 24.—For a short time Friday Representative Bostic of Harrison county, the only Populist member of the legislature, presided over the house.

Block Fire Destroyed.

Winnsboro, Tex., April 26.—The Crosby block was consumed by fire. —

The Man to Wake Up.

"When any one goes to sleep in my church," said a preacher to Bishop Seymour of Illinois, "my sexton is ordered to go and wake him up."

"Wouldn't it be better," said the bishop, with a smile, "when any one goes to sleep under your preaching to have the sexton come and wake you up?"—Sunday Illustrated Magazine.

Unsuspected Collusion.

"I don't know what to give my husband for Christmas," said the thoughtful woman. "There is no use of giving him a box of cigars."

"Why?"

"By some strange coincidence, whenever I give him cigars our doctor tells him he'll have to give up smoking for awhile."—Washington Star.

Messenger Club

Silverware, Cut Glass, China

Make Handsome Gifts
Nothing more appropriate,
Nothing more useful

We have the latest designs in Rogers'
1847 Silverware---Charter Oak and
Vintage--renowned and popular. . . .

Orange spoons, after-dinner spoons,
bullion spoons, tea and table spoons,
oyster forks, salad forks, cold meat
forks; cream, gravy and soup ladles.
Pearl-handle pickle and butter knives.

Finest line of cut glass ever brought
to the city--every piece a beauty, all
latest designs:

Salad bowls, creams and sugars,
pickle dishes, bon bon dishes, powder
boxes, water sets, vases, candle sticks

Excellent selection of hand-painted
china, newest patterns; a beautiful
array by famous artists.

A large selection of plain china of
real quality.
Come early and see our pretty goods.

Lillard & Co.

Decatur, -- Texas

WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE

I've just been down to Toyland.
Of dolls and jumping jacks
And woolly lambs and railroad trains
And trolley cars and stacks
Of other Christmas thingumbobs
There seems to be no end.
It's fun to visit Toyland, though
You've nothing much to spend.

Just think of aeroplanes that fly
As slick as Wilbur Wright,
Although, so far as I'm concerned,
I shouldn't risk a flight.
And think of auto cars that chug
And blow right up--"kerbang!"
And some that seem to run as fast,
Almost, as Louis Strang.

And there are dolls so wondrous wise
That when they start to speak
You wonder if they'll spout a lot
Of Choctaw, French or Greek.
And there are mulley cows so smart,
With hides as fine as silk,
That if you know just what to do
They'll give you sure 'nough milk.
--Birmingham Age-Herald.

Ready For the Worst.



Tract Distributer--Doesn't it seem
dreadful that ere long you must lie
down in that silent tomb?
"Oh, no! That doesn't worry me."
"You are prepared, then?"
"Prepared for anything. I write
jokes for a funny paper."

Brother Dickey's Sayings.

Many a lazy, shiverin' sinner is loaf-
in' round in de hope dat charity will
kiver him.

Sometimes turkey fer Chris'mus
spiles de appetite of people fer de res'
of de year.

Trouble can't come single in de holi-
day season. Dat's de very time he
fetches his troubles.

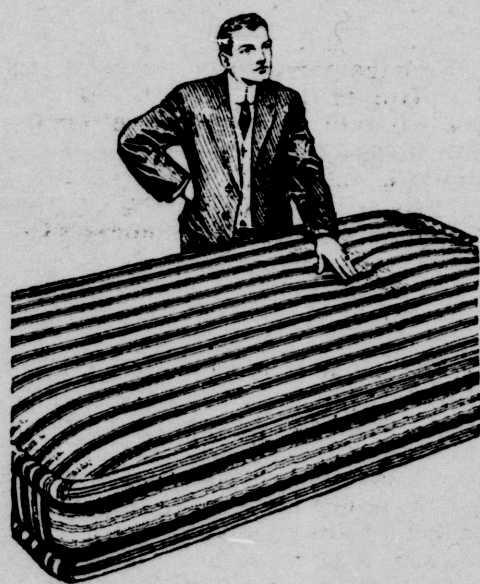
If turkey comes too high, you kin
dress up and make 'em look so like it
dat it'll fool any hungry man in de
country.

If you'll dress in a coal face on de
matter, ol' Thers will feel so bad
kaze he didn't hurt you at all he'll
ax fer his hat an' take fer de woods.--
Atlanta Constitution.

Contrary to Public Policy.

Caller (with a great thought)--Don't
you think it would be a splendid thing
if you were to employ a skilled physi-
cian to edit a column in your paper de-
voted to answering sick people's ques-
tions and telling them how to cure
themselves? Wouldn't it save many
a poor family from having to pay a
doctor's bill?

Editor (of Daily Bread)--My dear sir,
think of the thousands of good doc-
tors in this town who are barely keep-
ing soul and body together!--Chicago
Tribune.



On a Sealy tuftless Mattress
You will dream you drift on air,
Like you were upon an air ship--
Pleasant dreams to be your share.

On a Sealy Tuftless Mattress
You'll have rest and sweet repose:
It is made for peace and comfort
And it does invite the doze.

Fluffy, stuffy, all ways puffy
Mattress that you can't keep down,
Like the truth it all ways rises--
That's what makes its wide renown.

Lumps? Indeed there's no lumps in it
It's the very even thing,
It is made of pliant cotton
And it's springy on the spring.

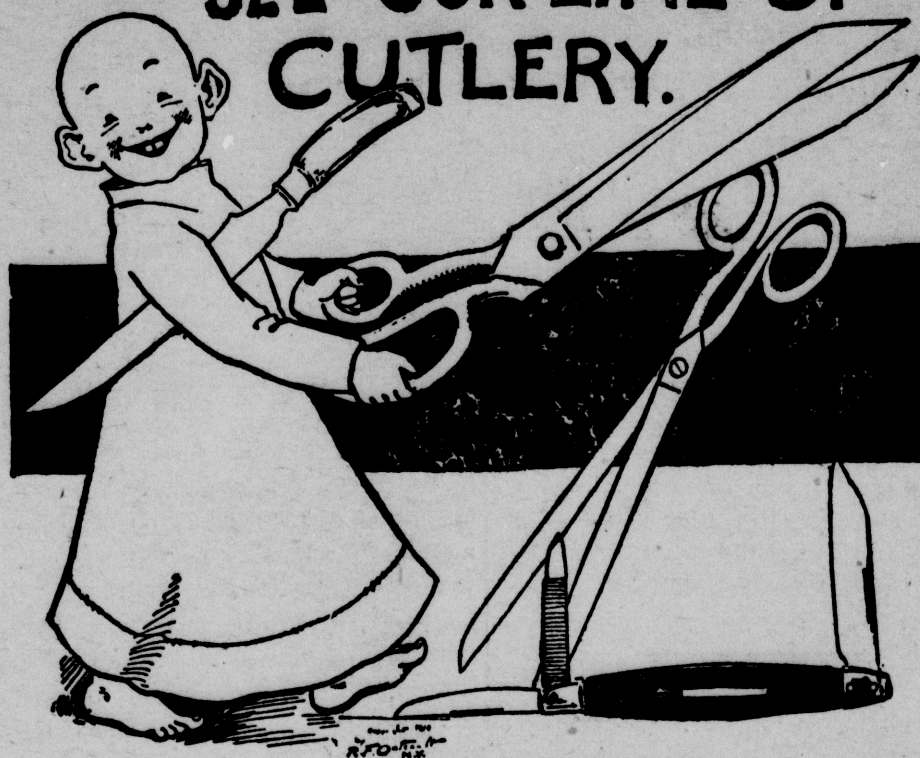
It's the mattress of the palace
And the mattress of the cot;
Safe and sane and sanitray
It's the best of all the lot.

It will hold its shape for ever
Keeping smooth the upper spreads;
It's so easy to lie on it--
And so easy to make beds.

It is everywhere the hobby
And it's everywhere the rage,
For the Sealy Tuftless Mattress
It the mattress of the age.

PENINGER--HELM & DILLHEY.

LOOK SHARP! SEE OUR LINE OF CUTLERY.



We sell cutlery that is sharp to begin with and which is well
tempered and will stay sharp. (See our show window display.)
We do not, however, use "sharp practice" with those who give
us their trade, and "palm off" on them a poor grade of hard-
ware. We "knife" prices when we first mark our goods.

PENINGER, HELM & DILLEHAY,

Decatur - - - Texas

Peters' "Diamond Special."

The Best Shoes In Texas

These shoes give that classy, high-arch effect,
so much desired by ladies who are particular,
because they fit perfectly at the instep making the foot appear
smaller and neater. Combined with this dressy effect is genuine
comfort as enough room is left across the ball of the foot to give
a roomy, walking surface for the foot.

Ask your dealer to show you a pair.
If he does not have them--write us.

Peters Shoe Co.
ST. LOUIS.



Brother Procter Hangs Himself

Bridgeport, Tex., Dec. 10, '10.
Editors Messenger:

In order that our reply to your
question may reach the same read-
ers that the question themselves
reached, we ask to trespass once
more upon your space for the fol-
lowing.

To your first question, no.
To your second question, no.
To your third question, no.

We simply asked the County At-
torney and the Attorney General, in
October last, the following question:
"Please inform us whether it is a
violation of law for a association of
persons or firms to boycott a certain
person or firm, or by concerted action
withdraw their patronage and in-
duce others to do so." On Oct. 30,
Assistant Attorney General, Brady,
replied, referring us to "subdivi-
sion 2, of section 3, of the anti-trust
law, same being chapter 94 of the
Acts of the 28th, Legislature." On
November 24th, County Attorney
Ratliff, replied, saying that he had
"reached the conclusion thehe could
probably could not make out a
case."

We have not, in correspondence or
in conversation, asked the Attorney
General, the County Attorney or any
number of the Grand Jury to take
any step toward prosecuting, indict-
ing or imprisoning any Bridgeport
merchant, nor have we at anytime
even furnished the name of a single
prospective witness. The statement
that we have done so, was born
either in misconception or in malice
and is utterly without foundation in

fact.

As to your opinion that The Index
is "making a mountain out of a
mole-hill," you have attempted to
place the shoe on the wrong foot.
The "mole-hill" was our accepting a
voluntary order for space from a
Chicago business house, the "moun-
tain" was the "rucus, or fuss, con-
troversy or disagreement" that your-
self and others have made about it.
As to yourself and the endorsements
of The Index's stand, you and the
people for that. It isn't our funeral.

Fraternally,

Orion Procter,
Editor Wise County Index.

Queen Amelle's Fortune.

All kinds of tales are being told
about the pecuniary affairs of the
royal family of Portugal. Queen Ame-
lie is certainly in good circumstances,
for her marriage portion was 3,000,000
francs and she inherited over 8,000,000
francs from her father, the Comte de
Paris. The whole of her fortune has
always been safely invested outside
of Portugal. Queen Amelle was a
beneficiary under the will of the Duc
d'Aumale, and she will some day in-
herit another considerable fortune
from her mother, the Comtesse de
Paris, who is enormously rich.--Pall
Mall Gazette.

J. P. Morgan Shuns Exercise.

When J. P. Morgan was in his fifties
he had very poor health and went to a
great New York physician, who said
to him: "Stop exercise in every form
Never even walk when you can take a
cab. You have formed the habit of
living without exercise, giving your en-
ergy to your brain. It is too late to
change the habits of a lifetime." This
advice Mr. Morgan followed implicitly.
Since that time he has absolutely
shunned exercise, has eaten heavily
and smoked much and has buried all
his own business generation and re-
mains robust at seventy-three. -- Ex-

Blacksmith and Carriage SHOP

All Kinds of Repair Work Done
with Neatness and Dispatch

Good Horseshoing A Specialty

This department of my shop is under the
personal supervision of an expert workman
who has recently come here from Dallas,
where for years he was the workman for
the farmers and stockmen who are particu-
lar and want the best for their horses.

Tom B. Vastine, - West Main

For County News--Messenger

WISE COUNTY MESSENGER

ESTABLISHED 1880.

COLLINS & SMITH

Entered at the Decatur, Texas, postoffice as second class mail matter.

DICK COLLINS,
MARVIN B. SMITH. }

Editors and Proprietors

Friday, Dec. 16, 1910.

Mr. Santa Claus, please bring Decatur a creamery and some small factories. We need them very badly, and they will be handy when we get the new railroad.

If Colonel Bryan is determined to be a president, he might move to Mexico and await the death of Diaz. That's the quickest route we can see for him.

The rains have come and Wise county is smiling again. Our farmers are busy preparing for another big crop, and peace and prosperity is abroad in the land.

Lets have a rousing meeting soon and run the membership to two hundred in the board of trade. There are good things coming our way soon that will need the utmost co-operation of every Decatur citizen.

All you farmers who are experiencing the trials and tribulations that go hand-in-hand with drouths and abbreviated crops, come to Wise: a county running over with golden opportunities and bursting with the gladsome songs of peace and plenty. Wonderful Wise! Won't you come?

Volume 1, number 1, of the Bridgeport News has reached our desk. R. B. Walker is the editor, and the paper is a very thrifty youngster, with a splendid advertising patronage. Messenger welcomes another paper in Wise county, and Mr. Walker has our best wishes.

The Christmas spirit is in the air, and all is preparation for the joyous holidays. Throw aside all selfishness and let your generous nature have full sway. Begin now to plan to make those happy who are not expecting to be remembered. The pleasure of giving is the joy it brings to the giver.

The moss-backs are growing fewer in number in Decatur every day. The grumblers are ceasing their tales of woe. The knockers are quitting their hammers and are beginning to boost for the town. The get-together spirit is beginning to permeate the people of the town, and the result is bound to be gratifying. Let everybody pull as one man for the best interests of Delightful Decatur.

Greenville Banner: Loyalty to home industries means the success of many concerns which otherwise would fail. It does not stop here for it means more, this helpful interest in home concerns. It means that the money of a community is kept at home and goes on its round of upbuilding and encouragement. Don't forget to encourage home industries by buying home made goods and home concerns.

Houston County Herald: Charitable acts may not take a man to heaven, but it is a pretty good start in that direction. And on the other hand, a man can have every other qualification and be short on charity and we don't believe he will ever pass either. It takes a clean good man without to go to heaven and no man can be good without being charitable. Let us all think of the poor child that has no one to provide for him this coming Christmas.

The Messenger wishes to impress upon its many readers the great importance of doing early Christmas shopping. During the last few days before Christmas there is always a rush of tardy buyers who have put off making their purchases till the last minute. They always get the worst of the deal, for the stocks are usually sold out or the selection is broken, so you finally get something that does not please you. Then, dear reader, remember the tired clerks and delivery men who have to rush here and there to follow the wish of the late buyer. They are human and deserve some consideration. After weeks of hard work, they are worn to a frazzle. So, buy now; get your Christmas presents while the stores are full to overflowing; buy your groceries and

other supplies which you know you must have while you can get what you want without fighting for it.

During the past year Decatur has experienced some great improvements. New residences have been erected many places are improved, and in a business way we've improved wonderfully. Our business men have enjoyed splendid trade, not a business failure has occurred in the town during 1910, and every business house in town is occupied. Decatur has also improved as a market and the farmers have been quick to realize the advantages offered here. This is indeed a splendid place to live. Come to Decatur.

We are proud that our citizens are not so narrow that there must be a dollar in sight before they will do a deed for the public good. A short time ago our liberal and progressive citizen, L. P. Langdon, arranged a split log drag, and just for the public good put it in on the public road running by his place, and for a long distance put the road in absolutely first class condition. One half this amount of energy and precaution exercised by all who live on a public road would keep our roads perpetually good condition.—Millsap News.

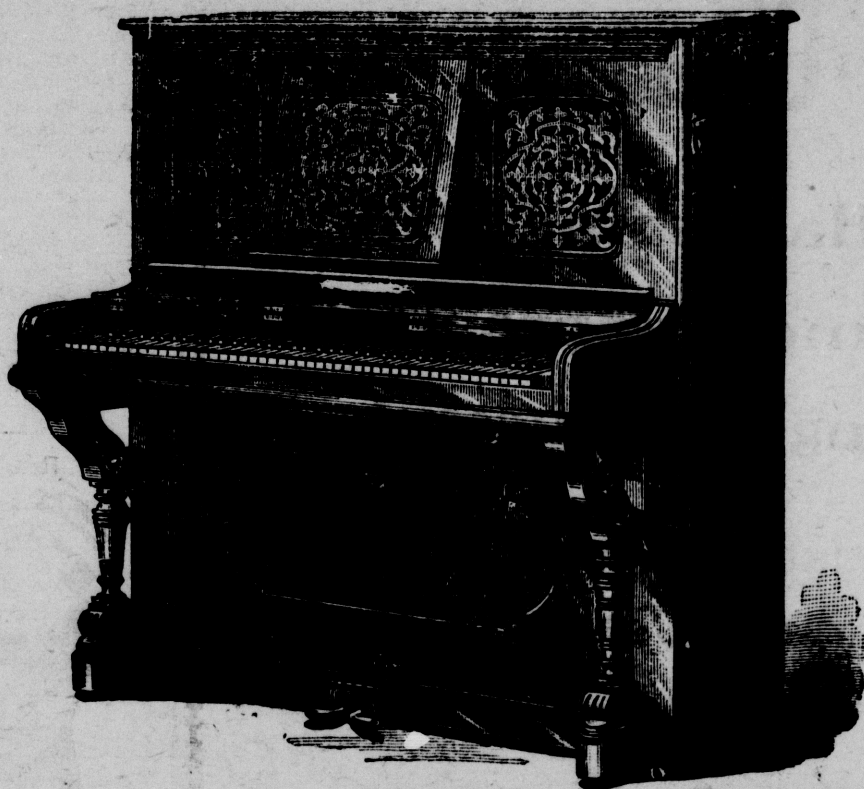
A town without a board of trade or commercial club is a dead one, a back number. It takes organization to accomplish anything, and without it no town can ever hope to grow and prosper. It is to Decatur's board of trade, with a live president and secretary, that we owe the gradual improvement which is in progress, and it is the duty of every citizen to join this organization and do all possible to assist in the up-building of the town. The drones are a draw back to any community, and it is actually a disgrace for any man to draw his existence from a town and vicinity without contributing somewhat to its growth and development. Don't be a drone. Help boost and help pay to keep the board of trade in existence that we may be all ways ready to grasp any opportunity that confronts us. There are a hundred men in Decatur who should join the board of trade and help keep the wheels of progress in motion. Get busy and join in the good work.

The letters from farmers who took up the demonstration work under the direction of the United States department of Agriculture show beyond peradventure the success of the instruction. When a man owing \$1,200 and about to lose his farm in one year makes enough to pay off all indebtedness, puts several hundred dollars in the bank and increases his livestock holdings by several hundred more, he has a perfect right to feel grateful to the agents who gave him the assistance in the way of instruction that brought this about. There is still a sentiment to decry "book farming" or taking instruction from any source. But seeing is believing and the man who sees his neighbor following newer methods and producing increased yields has a mighty hard head if he, too, doesn't profit from what his eyes tell him. The demonstration work may be termed a fad, book-farming or what not. The fact remains that it is doing valuable service throughout the South and everybody in the South is profiting by it.—Denton Record.

He's Coming Soon



THE BEST GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS



The Autopiano

Here is a gift that will furnish years of pleasure and joy to your household, at an expense so slight in comparison to the pleasure received, that we do not see how you can overlook it as the best Christmas present obtainable.

Those who can't play the keyboard in the old way will find that they are able to produce the world's best music on the AUTOPIANO by means of perforated music rolls, so that music—the best music, too—is always at their command.

Open Evenings Until Christmas

Lillard & Co

R. A. Kooker, M. D.
C. B. Simmons, M. D.

Drs. Kooker & Simmons

Specialists—Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat
Fort Worth, Texas

Cor. 9th & Houston, Western Nat'l Bank Building. Dr. Simmons has established the first Friday and Saturday of each month as regular practice days in Decatur.

Your Local Paper.

1. A community is judged by the character of its papers. It is up to you to give your support to help your home paper represent your community creditably.

1. No other publication will give you your local or neighborhood news as well as your home paper.

3. Its advertisers are building up your home town and deserve your support.

4. It is a home product. It is boosting for home enterprises and should be loyally supported by home people.

5. It is newsy, clean and readable and a paper that you will not be ashamed to have in your home.

6. In giving your patronage to your home paper you are really helping yourself, for it is building up your town and increasing the value of your property.

7. No other medium can cover the field it is occupying, and you owe it to yourself to keep informed of the doings in your community, state and country.

8. You should not only read it yourself, but you should send it to your relatives and friends. It will be like a letter from home to them.

9. It is fearless and independent and tells the news without fear or favor.

10. The people of intelligence are those who keep abreast of the times and take good reading matter. You owe it to yourself, to your family and your community to be an intelligent, progressive and wide-awake citizen. Your local paper will help you keep abreast of the times.

Logic.

A beehive is a diseased potato. You obtain this startling information in the following way:

A beehive is a bee-holder.

A beholder is a spectator.

A specked tater is a diseased potato.

—London Fun.

It's the Messenger with knowing ones one dollar per year. Try it.

When Women Point

Absolutely the finest line of Fruits and Candies ever shown in Decatur.



TO

Royal Seal and Silk Finish Flour

as the best of all, they know what they are about. If there is one thing women can judge well, it is flour. Order a sack today and if you do not declare it to be the best you ever used you will be the first to whom this flour has not successfully appealed. December and January are our semi-annual housecleaning and inventory months. During this time we will save you money on your supplies. Don't forget to take advantage of this money-saving opportunity to buy your groceries. This is decidedly the largest, most complete and up-to-date stock of groceries in Wise county. Our books are open every day to reliable people. Every accommodation extended consistent with conservatism. Come, price, buy—go home, check up your bills, weigh and measure your packages; see that you get what you pay for. Guarantee quality, quantity, weights, measures

W. L. DALLAS

The Pure Food Store

For County News--Messenger

Christmas - Cooking

Calls for the best groceries to be had and great variety of articles.

- We have what you need -
Ingredients for your fruit-
cake---nuts, fruits, spices; a
splendid selection o f table
condiments; in fact anything
which your preparation for
Xmas cooking demands. .

You find everything good to eat at

MOORE @ HUNT

A Snap in Hand Painted China

We were fortunate, at the close
of the season to catch a case of
beautiful Hand Painted China
at a price that enables us to of-
fer the best bargains in this line
ever shown in Decatur. Every
piece a gem for a Christmas
Present. Don't buy till you see
these goods.

TYLER'S

North Side, Next Red Store, DECATUR, Texas.

See our Window Display.



Copyright 1909
The House of Kuppenheimer
Chicago

Vastine

The Tailor, is now in his
new quarters, (the old post
office building) ready to
do your

Cleaning and Repairing

In the highest style of the
art. Old Hats cleaned and
made to look like new.
Bring your clothes and get
fixed up for Christmas.

Vastine, THE
TAILOR

J. W. BAILEY D. A. BAILEY
BAILEY BROS.
Hayter Bldg. Decatur, Texas

Real Estate Agents, Write Insurance,
Make Deeds, Abstracts, Secure Land Loans, Collectors
and Rental Agents.

HUMOROUS QUIPS

Is There a Santa Claus?

"Is there a Santa Claus?" she asked.
"Come, daddy, tell me true.
I heard today the good old saint
Is really, truly you;
That no one down our chimney comes
To little girls and boys;
That you and mamma really buy
My dollies and my toys."

I held her on my knee and gazed
Into her searching eyes.
Somehow I've felt this time would come,
This question would arise,
And yet, I pondered to myself,
What shall I say or do?
And then I answered: "Yes, there is
A Santa Claus for you."

"He comes to you on Christmas eve,
But let me tell you this:
He's with you when you hug your dad
And when his cheek you kiss.
He's with you when you say your prayers
To God, who reigns above.
Sometimes he has another name.
We grown folks call him Love."

"You keep your faith in Santa Claus
When others bid you doubt.
You still retain your faith in him.
Let not belief die out.
And what you heard today is wrong."
I felt the teardrops start.
"Yes, yes, there is a Santa Claus.
He lives in daddy's heart."
—Detroit Free Press.

Christmas at the Corners.

When the members of the Basswood
Silver Cornet band gave a concert last
winter and wore the neckties their
wives gave 'em for Christmas, you
couldn't hear the music at all.

William Jenkins, who is somewhat
nigh in money matters, expects to pre-
sent his family with an encyclopedia,
one volume to each member. Last
year he gave 'em one dozen eggs.

Rev. Hanks wishes us to announce
that he has plenty of white lawn neck-
ties, and if he preaches from now to
the crack of doom he won't use up half
what he got last year for Christmas,
even if he uses a fresh one with every
sermon. Potatoes and Hubbard squash
will be welcome, but he has all the
secondhand earmuffs that he needs.—
Judge.

Mental Influence.

"How far is it to Gloomville?" we
ask of the native who is leaning over
the gate.

"Ten miles, straight ahead," he an-
swers.

"But we met a man a little way back,
and he said it was only two miles."

"Short, fat man, drivin' a feabitten
sorrel hoss?"

"That's the man."

"Did ye meet him or pass him?"

"We passed him."

"Thought so. He's drivin' a balker I
traded him, an' he didn't want his hoss
to know how much funder it had to
go."—Chicago Post.

"When the Turkey Said 'Goodby.'"

The five turkeys we had taken on
subscription were stolen from us some
time Wednesday night, and no trace
of them has been found. We don't re-
gret the loss so much because we'll be
minus Christmas and New Year's
dinners, but since the turkeys came
we've written some sassy editorials
about the meat trust, holding ourselves
high and independent of it, and now
we'll have to help out the blamed trust
by purchasing a couple of cans of sar-
dines to fill the void caused by the loss
of the turkeys.—Atlanta Constitution.

There's the Rub.

"Well," said the optimistic boarder,
"there's one thing about our boarding
house—you can eat as much as you
like there."

"Of course; same as ours," replied
the pessimistic one. "You can eat as
much as you like, but there's never
anything you could possibly like."—
Catholic Standard and Times.

She Should Be Tied.

"He's a dangerous man for the com-
munity."

"Does he steal?"

"No, indeed."

"Does he intox?"

"No, but he goes round among the
married women telling how much he
helps his wife out with the house-
work."—Boston Herald.

The Inevitable.

"You don't resent that successful
candidate's proud and haughty man-
ner?"

"Nope," rejoined Farmer Cornfossil.
"The fact that he's in politics is all
the guarantee I want that sooner or
later he'll meet with some kind of a
terrible finish."—Washington Star.

Inducements Wanting.

"Why does Willie Smifkins refuse to
be a good boy just before Christmas?"
"Because," answered the boy who
always knows the answer, "he belongs
to one of those families that believes
in giving none except useful presents."
—Washington Star.

The American Way.

Microbe on Apple—Why is yonder
man eating in such a tremendous
hurry?

Microbe on Pear—Appointment with
his doctor. He is taking treatment for
indigestion during his lunch hour, you
know!—Puck.



Prettiest
Display of
Santa
Clause
Supplies
in town

We invite you to call on us

Ford & Thomason

Christmas Is Coming !

Why Not Give Us Your
Christmas Bill ?????

We have just re-
ceived a fresh ship-
ment Xmas candies,
nuts, fruits and ev-
ery thing for your
fruit cake and Christmas cooking. Just
received fresh shipment canned goods,
bought before recent advance in prices.

We are prepared to take care of your orders,
and save you money on your purchases. All
Kinds of Fire Works. Yours for a merry Xmas,

Cash Grocery Store



Good Things for Christmas

Everybody will
prepare some-
thing extra in
the way of edi-
bles during the
holidays.

Beard's Grocery is well stocked with
every Good Thing to Eat your appe-
tite may demand. We are well-prepared to fill
your orders in Xmas Candies, Cakes, Fruits, Nuts,
fresh and cured Meats, vegetables, all in great
variety. Phone us your orders today.

C. B. BEARD
The Grocer

For County News--Messenger

ORIGINAL AND DISTINCTIVE

Christmas Gifts For All the Family



Never before in our history have we been so well prepared to take care of your wants for Xmas. Months ago we began to assemble and make ready the now most complete line of Holiday Novelties and Gifts that we are now showing, gifts for mother, father, sister are here in profusion, and you will find your Christmas shopping a real pleasure in this store.



Our Christmas goods are much admired for their beauty and highly recommended for their extremely reasonable prices. A gift from the Red Store means quality. For the holidays we offer

Ladies' Handkerchiefs

Nice assortment of plain and fancy handkerchiefs, choice.....5c
Extra nice handkerchiefs in plain or fancy embroidered corners only.....8 1-3c

Big assortment of handkerchiefs in plain and fancy embroidered lace at.....12 1-2c and 25c

A beautiful line of dainty purse linen handkerchiefs in either a dainty scalloped border on neat hem, choice.....50c

Ladies' Automobile Scarfs

A very acceptable gift for the lady would be a pretty silk scarf. We are showing a big assortment of them in all colors prices reasonably at.....75c and \$1.00

Ladies' Purses

A very useful gift for the lady would be a purse. Our new styles have just come in and you can select a very desirable gift at.....50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$3.00

Patent Leather, Tapestry and Persian Belts, your choice 50c

The newest creations in Barretts, either in plain or jeweled designing, priced at.....25c, 35c and 50c

Linen Napkins

A beautiful 64-inch, all pure linen table damask, priced at per yard.....50c

Heavy quality of table damask 72-inches wide, a regular \$1.00 value at.....75c

Damask in several exclusive patterns, 72-inches wide priced at.....\$1.00

Nice line of Napkins, in mercerized or linen, priced at 50c to.....\$2.50

Men's Fancy Vests

A most useful gift for his Christmas would be a fancy vest selected from the nice assortment we have gathered together. You can suit most any fancy, and they are not expensive at.....\$2.50, \$3.00 and \$3.50

Linen Handkerchiefs for Men.

Large pure linen handkerchiefs, extra nice quality. Special 2 for.....25c

Extra nice quality, pure linen handkerchiefs with dainty initial in corner, three to the box, per box.....75c

Do your shopping now while you can find just what you want in our complete stock of Xmas presents.



Holiday Ties for Men

Our Christmas offering of Men's Cravats have just arrived. Among them you will find all the very latest ideas in colorings and patterns. If you have a special design in mind you can come and expect to find it. They are reasonably priced at 25c, 35c and.....50c

The V-shaped knit muffler in all colors for men and women only.....25c

Hats for Holiday Gifts

John B. Stetson stiff hat in several of the newest shapes priced at.....\$3.50

The new shaped rolled trim, low crowned Telescope, John B. Stetson Quality, tan, pearl and black, priced at.....\$3.50

John B. Stetson Boss, raw edge quality, Columbia shape at.....\$4.25

Almost every shape and color hat, priced at.....\$1.50, \$1.95 and.....\$2.50

Dress and Table Scarfs

We have just received a big line of holiday scarfs, some are plain linen, trimmed with linen laces, battenburg designing in squares, doilies etc. They are reasonably priced at 50c to \$1.25

Linen Towels

Pure damask towels with plain hemstitched or fringe border at.....50c

Extra nice linen huck towel with scalloped ends at rare bargains at.....50c

Extra heavy pure linen damask towel scalloped ends. Its an exceptional value at.....\$1.00

Men's Gloves for Christmas

Men's tan and gray moca gloves for street wear.....\$1.00-\$1.50

Men's tan capeskin gloves for driving.....\$1.50

Genuine Plymouth Buckskin gloves for driving.....\$1.50

Silk Handkerchiefs

Silk initial handkerchiefs in black and cream initial....35c

Extra large silk handkerchiefs in black and cream.....50c

Large heavy silk mufflers in long or square ones in all colors, priced at.....\$1.00

We have only told you of a few of the many useful and acceptable gifts that we have to offer you. We ask you to come and see the many new things we are showing for the holidays.

RED STORE

XMAS TOYS

MERRY CHRISTMAS



OLD SANTA HAS MADE HIS HEADQUARTERS AT THE NICKEL STORE, and you never saw so many pretty DOLLS and interesting TOYS as we have here; and they are not the shoddy kind, either; all well constructed and made to last—none but first-class articles in the house—but the price is not high. We will sell the best Xmas goods as cheap as others sell the shoddy kind. We have many GIFTS FOR OLD AND YOUNG. No one need go further to select any class of present. And here you will receive the most courteous attention. Mr. and Mrs. Dunaway have personal supervision of the store, and have capable assistants to aid them in attending to your every want. Come early and avoid the rush of the last few days before Christmas. Our big stock is now ready for your inspection, and the goods are going in a hurry.

THE NICKEL STORE,

"Where Nickels Count as Dimes"

North Side Square, Decatur

Intemperance by Proxy.
Lady—"Arf a pint o' stout, please.
Barman—You go on out o' fere. You've ad enough.
Lady—It ain't for me, dearie.
Barman—Who's it for, then?
Lady—A liddy friend o' mine.
Barman—Where is she?
Lady—Well, as a matter of fac', she's lyin' down outside! —London Opinion.

The Critic.
They were looking up at the noble figure of Justice that adorns the courthouse.
"Anybody would know this was the work of a man," said the woman of the party. "Just see how much too full he's cut her skirt!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Proper Place.
"A waiter was arrested at the club today, and the policeman asked me where he could take him to question him."
"What did you say?"
"I told him to take him to the grill room."—Baltimore American.

The One Scare.
"Are you never frightened when you make a flight?"
"I had one good scare," replied the businesslike aviator. "Some one told me the money they were putting up for the exhibition was counterfeit."—Washington Star.

Santa, Take Notice.
Mrs. Shiftless—There! I've hung up

the children's stockings. I wonder what Santa Claus will bring?

Mrs. Cutting—Well, if he's at all observing he'll bring some darning cotton and needles!—Life.

How It Happened.
"He was certainly brave to crawl under the bed and engage in a life and death struggle with that burglar."
"When he crawled under the bed he thought the burglar was in the basement."—Houston Post.

Helping the Poor.
"Have you no friends to help you?"
"I have, mum, but they sort of bunch their gifts. I get six turkeys Christmas and nothing the rest of the year."—Pittsburg Press.

City and County News Notes

J. T. Pugh was in Rhome Monday. 10 post cards for 5c at the new Racket Store.

Paul Smith was here this week from Tyne, La.

Get your bread, cakes and pies at the City Bakery.

Dr. A. Q. Gentry was here Sunday from Alvord.

Royal Seal and Silk Finish flour, the best on earth.

W. F. Bagwell of Clarendon is the guest of Esquire T. H. Greer.

Smoke with us; only cigars of quality sold. Ford & Thomason.

J. W. Atkerson, an old resident of Wise county, lately of Oklahoma, is visiting his brother, N. B. Atkerson.

Do your Christmas shopping today and at the Red store.

Will Young, Albert Tankersley and Buck Collins were here Sunday from Fort Worth.

A Mexican, Ben Diaz was arrested Monday at Bridgeport charged with theft of over \$50.

See J. E. Boyd for money to loan on farm lands.

You can do your Christmas shopping at the Red store. The store is overflowing with holiday goods.

For first-class barber work go to Roe & Bob's

Mrs. Roy Gilliland and children are here for a visit to home-folks. Mr. Gilliland was here Monday.

Be sure to attend the Wise County Sunday School Convention at Bridgeport, Dec. 27 and 28.

See those wonderful steam cookers at the Nickle Store.

Mrs. W. W. HIN, of Auburn, Ala., is here for a visit to home-folks and friends until after the holidays.

A look at the ladies \$17.50 tailor made suits for \$10.85 will convince you that they are the greatest bargains ever offered. The Red Store.

Every Sunday school in Wise county should be represented at the convention at Bridgeport, Dec. 27, and 28.

Only a few choice, ladies \$25.00 tailor made suits for \$16.85 left at the Red Store, you are missing a great opportunity if you pass it up.

Free entertainment for all who attend the Sunday school convention at Bridgeport, Dec. 27 and 28. Don't forget the date.

Mr. and Mrs. Edd Gibson, Mrs. R. M. Collins and Miss Frances Collins attended the Collins-Cobb wedding at Cleburne Wednesday.

A great many men know a good thing when they see it, from the way they have taken the opportunity of buying Hart Schaffner and Marx 22.50 suits for 16.85. The Red Store.

The grand jury has returned 41 bills of indictment to the district court, 20 of which were felonies, and 21 were misdemeanors. The jury was in session ten days and will convene again the first Monday in January.

Our stock is now in good shape and we can furnish you what you want and save you money. Come and see the New Racket Store.

The postoffice at Bridgeport was burglarized last Friday night. The safe was blown and about \$175 was secured. No clue has been found to the guilty ones.

Buy a Hosier Kitchen Cabinet and quit walking ten miles to get a meal while your husband sits in a rocker reading the evening paper. Peninger, Helm & Dillehay.

The Decatur lodge, No. 447, A. F. & A. M. will hold its annual banquet to-night at Masonic temple. It will be a great feed, and the last course on the menu is "hot air," which will be presided over by A. D. Rogers.

Don't forget—when you are down in the mouth and don't know what to do, grab your best friend or some other friend's friend and visit the picture show to-night.

Miller Sparkman and J. C. Odem, of Era, are the guest of friends here. These gentlemen report that sixty teams are at work on the new railroad out of Gainesville this way, and that good work is being done by the force.

Bridgeport is to have natural gas. A pipe line will run from the main line west of Decatur.

WOOD CUTTERS WANTED—Jas. W. Smith, Route 1, Independent Phone 77.

REPAIR SHOP—For general repair work, gun-smithing shoe repairing, bicycle work, or anything in this line call on W. B. PHILLIPS, next door to express office. Work guaranteed.

FARM FOR SALE—540 acres of rich black land, in black belt of Wise county, 350 acres in cultivation, 200 acres in grass, 2 miles north of Sli dell; one two-story dwelling with wind mill at home place; and three good rent houses with good barns, all well piped with water. Also mules, horses, and cattle for sale. For particulars see or write A. P. BALTHROP, Slidell, Texas. 2t

DRESS MAKING—Mrs. V. A. Hart does all kinds of plain and fancy dress making. First house west of old Cates House.

WISE COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

To Be Held at Bridgeport Dec. 27th and 28th

This helpful meeting will be held for all the Pastors, Superintendents, Teachers' and Sunday School Workers in the county. The chief end and object of the meeting is to make the best methods of the best schools and common possessions of all schools of all denominations. Plans, Methods Ways and Means will be carefully discussed. Pastors and Superintendents are earnestly requested to announce from the pulpit and platform and appoint as many delegates as can be persuaded to go. There is help in it for your school.

TUESDAY MORNING
9:30 Assembling of delegates and Greetings.

10:00 Devotional Services conducted by Pastor Host.

10:30 Round Table Discussion: Conducted by Rev. O. T. Cooper, District President.

11:00 The Sunday School Organized and Graded; W. N. Wiggins, General Secretary.

11:45 Sing awhile; W. C. North.

12:00 Recess.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

1:30 Song and Praise: W. C. North.

2:00 Teachers' Training in Christian Schools: Rev. W. C. Carver.

2:30 Elementary Work: Mrs. W. N. Wiggins.

3:00 Teachers' Meeting.

3:30 Music in the Sunday School: W. C. North.

4:00 A Sunday School Service: Conducted by W. N. Wiggins.

5:00 Recess.

TUESDAY NIGHT

7:15 Song Service: Conducted by W. C. North.

7:45 Devotional: Rev. O. T. Cooper.

8:00 Organized to Win: W. N. Wiggins.

8:45 Adult Bible Class Demonstration, "How we get 'Em.'"

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

9:00 Praise and Testimony Meeting: Conducted by W. C. North.

9:30 Round Table: conducted by W. N. Wiggins.

10:00 The Home Department: Mrs. W. N. Wiggins.

10:20 Songs.

10:30 The Boy Problem: by "The Big Boy" Jno M. Adams.

11:15 Round Table on Sunday School Problems.

11:50 Songs.

12:00 Recess.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

1:30 Song Service.

2:00 Round Table Discussion: conducted by Jno. M. Adams.

1:30 Junior Hand Work: Mrs. W. N. Wiggins.

2:50 Songs.

3:00 Sunday School Teacher and Teacher Training.

4:00 Boys and Girls Rally, conducted by W. C. North. Every boy and girl in Bridgeport urged to be present.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

7:15 Song and Praise and Testimony Service.

7:45 Jno. M. Adams.

8:00 Mrs. Wm. Wiggins.

8:15 Wm. C. North.

8:30 Songs.

8:55 Our Part in the Kingdom Vision: W. N. Wiggins.

Card of Thanks.

We desire to express our heartfelt gratitude for the great kindness of the physicians and many friends during the last illness of our baby. MR. AND MRS. ALRED.

Regulating Meat Barons.

Henry VIII. would have known how to deal with the French butchers who are said to be combining to keep up the price of meat. In 1535, according to Stowe, he issued an ordinance "that butchers should sell their beefe and mutton by weight, beefe for a half penny the pound and mutton for 2 farthings. At this time also, and not before, there were foraine butchers permitted to sell their flesh in Leaden-hall market of London."—London Chronicle.

Sienna.

Raw sienna is natural earth from Sienna, and when burned it is known as burnt sienna.

A Nice Piece of Furniture FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT



Useful presents always give the greatest pleasure, and nothing could be more appropriate as gifts

for your relatives or friends than any one of our hundreds of different pieces of Handsome Furniture--things that will brighten the home and make glad the heart of the recipient, while serving a useful purpose.

Pretty rockers, sets of chairs, tables, beds, rugs, carpets, lamps, kitchen furniture, silverware, havelin china, framed pictures--many, many beautiful and needful things which any one would be happy to receive.

Call early for choice selection.

D. W. Frazer & Co.

Just North Mississippi Store, : Northeast Corner Square

STORE NEWS

From The Store For All the People

A few reasons why our store offers you the best opportunities for Christmas shopping:

Because we offer you a broader selection of useful articles than any one store in town, and in our line will be found articles that will be appropriate for any member of the family. The best reason for selecting a present here is, when you buy here you get something that is useful, and such presents are always appreciated. We would suggest that you call and we will run the risk of you buying.

We're Offering Extra Bargains in Ladies' Silk Petticoats

These garments are values you usually find at from \$7.50 to \$10.00, and you will admit it as soon as you cast your eyes on them. The very best taffetas and satin in changeable and solid colors, with a deep flounce of best silk. A special purchase of only 75 bought at a low price. These are not cheap or old stock, but direct from New York, nothing cheap but the price. While they last they go for **\$3.98**

1/3 Off on Ladies' Tailored CoatSuits and Long Coats.

We have a nice line of Ladies' Tailored suits and we are offering them at prices that are bound to suit your purse and remember all our suits are this seasons goods and when you buy from us you are sure of the latest style. We have them in broad cloth, Zubline, basket weave and choice mixture of snappy grade of chevots, perfectly plain tailored. New gored and pleated skirts. Don't fail to visit this department. Prices from \$15 to \$25 go at \$10 to..... \$18.00

Ladies' Holiday Bags.

Ladies' Holiday Bags in many different styles. Black, tan leather hand bags with inside purse worth \$1, \$1.25, specialat..... 65c
New style Hand Bags, silver mounted, with inside card case, purse and mirror, leather lined, worth \$4.00, \$3.00 to..... \$3.50
The best grade and the best value in town from \$3.50 and up to \$6.00

Ladies' Gloves

We have a nice assortment of the best in long and short gloves, all colors, black, white and tan from \$1 to..... \$2.50

Useful Furs.

Our line of furs must be seen to be appreciated. Come and inspect them, price from 75c to..... \$7.00

1/3 Off on Long Coats and Capes

Extra Special on Ladies' and Misses long coats and capes in the latest style. Fine black and brown broad cloth, lined with fine satin other style in novelty mixed goods. Tans and grays, all sizes, from 12 to 40 and the price is reduced to the laughing point.

Ladies' Mens' and Misses Coat Sweaters

We have a large assortment of these goods and have all colors, brown, white, black, gray, and red and a size for the largest, and one for baby too. We have the sweaters, you have in mind, and a size to fit. Price from 50c to \$4.50

Trunks and Suit Cases.

Are you going to visit the home-folks Christmas? If such be a fact you will enjoy looking over our line of suit cases and trunks. We have suit cases from 75c to \$6, and trunks, the best line in town and just what you want, from \$1.50 to \$17.50

Clothing. Clothing.

Cleverness of style and workmanship, combined with comfort in what you should take into consideration when you go in to buy a suit. And we had this in mind when we selected our stock of clothing. Sterling clothes contain all the valuable points, and our line is complete and you are cordially invited to call and inspect this line for yourself and you will find nothing cheap about them but the price.

We have many other good things we would like to tell you about, but the lack of space prevents us from doing so, and we ask you to visit us and inspect our line. You are always welcome. Don't forget the place--southwest corner square.

BELLAH & SONS

DECATUR, TEXAS

Sheriff's Sale.

The State of Texas, county of Wise. Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a certain order of sale issued out of the honorable district court of Runnels county, of the 19th, day of October 1910, by District Clerk of said county for the sum of eleven hundred, sixty-six and twenty-seven cents and cost of suit, under a judgment, in favor of The Runnels County National Bank in a certain cause in said court, number 1243 and styled The Runnels County National Bank vs. J. S. Cox, placed in my hands for service, I, Sam Faith as sheriff of Wise county, Texas, did on the third day of December, 1910, levy on certain real estate, situated in Wise county, Texas, described as follows, to-wit: All my right, title and interest in and to the following tracts or parcels of land, to-wit:

First Tract--Being 109 1/2 acres out of the N. M. Gann survey, abstract No. 1298. Said 109 1/2 acres being bounded by the lands of W. B.

Stone, W. M. Johnson, W. H. Merideth and W. M. Watson. Said land being about 16 1/2 miles north 65 degrees west of Decatur, Texas.

Second Tract--In Wise county, Texas, on the waters of Willow Creek a tributary of the Trinity river about 16 1/2 miles north 65 degrees west from Decatur, Texas, same being the B. P. Cox 160 acres survey. Beginning at the southeast corner of a survey for Peter Holmes, a stake a P. O. bears north 54 degrees east, 10 varas; thence south 950 4-10 varas a stake; thence north 950 4-10 varas a stake in S. B. line of said Holmes survey; thence east 950 4-10 varas with S. B. line of same survey to the place of beginning.

Third Tract--In Wise county, Texas Being the W. H. Merideth survey about 15 1/2 miles north 66 degrees west of Decatur Texas, beginning at whence to P. O. bears west 40 degrees east 11 1/5 varas; thence south 533 varas to the northwestern southeast corner of Gann survey in the N. B. line of said C. M. Stokesberry

survey a pile of stones in a rocky hollow whence a P. O. bears north 15 degrees east 1 varas; thence east 311 varas to the northeast corner of said Stokesberry survey on the N. B. Line A. J. Adams survey a pile of stones whence a P. O. bears north 15 degrees east 25 varas; thence east 306 varas with N. B. line of said Adams survey to southwest corner of J. M. Turner survey; thence north 390 varas with the west line of said Turner survey to S. B. line of W. M. Watson survey; thence south 89 degrees west 617 varas to the place of beginning. Bearings marked "X" and levied upon as the property of J. S. Cox and that on the first Tuesday in January 1911, the same being the 3rd day of said month, at the Court House door, of Wise county, in the city of Decatur, Texas, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. by virtue of said levy and said order of sale I will sell said above described real estate at public vendure, for cash, to the highest bidder, as the property of said J. S. Cox. And in compliance with law

I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in the Wise County Messenger a newspaper published in Wise county. Witness my hand this 3rd, day of December 1910. Ssm Faith, Sheriff of Wise county, Texas.

Our Guarantee

So confident are we that time and use will prove our claims, that we guarantee every Reznor Gas Heater to be thoroughly satisfactory, and we will replace any Reznor that is not satisfactory after one week's trial with other stoves from our large line. So you take no chances in buying a Reznor.

Isn't this full of meaning to you? Isn't it your opportunity?

To satisfy our customers is our aim. Reznor heaters are sold by LILLARD & CO., Decatur.

Read This

Decatur, Tex., this certifies that I have sold Hall's Texas Wonder for the cure of all kidney, bladder and rheumatic troubles, for years and have never had a complaint. It always gives quick and permanent relief. Ford & Thomason.

WANTED AT ONCE--Hampton's Magazine wants a reliable man or woman in Decatur to sell the fast-growing magazine in America. Earn \$1.50 to \$5.00 a day. Write immediately for "Salary Plan" and FREE outfit. Address "Von" Sales Mgr., Hampton's Magazine, 85 West 36th St., New York.

BOYS! GIRLS! FREE COLUMBIA BICYCLES for a little easy spare time work for Hamptons Magazine. Send postal for wonderful FREE Bicycle offer. Address "Bicycle Club," Room 538, 66 West 35th St., New York.

The Messenger.

NEW DENVER SCHEDULE

Arrive at Decatur

NORTH BOUND	SOUTH BOUND
No. 3- 9:12 a. m.	No. 8-5:08 a.m.
No. 1-11:00 a. m.	No. 6-6:20 a.m.
No. 5- 8:32 p. m.	No. 2-4:34 p.m.
No. 7-11:52 p. m.	No. 4-3:24 p.m.

News of Town and County

Royal Seal and Silk Finish flour.

Mrs. H. C. Barber is on an extended visit to Walnut Springs.

Houses to let. Want one? Come to J. W. Bailey.

Henry Hobbs was here Sunday from Chillicothe.

Fresh chocolate candies 5c to 75c per box. Ford & Thomason.

M. D. Parnell and son, Dewight, of Chico, were here Tuesday.

Money to loan on you land. See J. E. Boyd at county treasurer office.

Garrett Bardadale, of Chico, is attending court this week.

Buy your mattresses, springs and feather pillows from Peninger, Helm and Dilehey.

Miss Floryne Rush is visiting in Fort Worth.

Constable Buck Riley. was here Tuesday from Bridgeport.

New car Moon & Banner buggies just received by Peninger, Helm and Dilehey.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Wason died last Friday.

Remember Bellah & Sons are giving 1-3 off on all long coats and coat suits.

Elmer Clark has moved to town from his country home.

Attorney Ratliff and Frank Ford were in Bridgeport Monday.

John Gunn has gone to Fort Worth where he is conductor on a street car.

Buy your mattresses, springs and feather pillows from Peninger, Helm and Dilehey.

Pat Lynch and daughter, Miss Davilla, visited Fort Worth Saturday.

Meet me at the Majestic, Friday night, as I'll be there.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Patterson, of Memphis, on Dec. 10th, a daughter.

Make your wife a Christmas present of a silk petticoat at Bellah & Sons-\$3.98.

W. L. Dallas will save you good money on your supplies.

D. A. Bailey made a business trip to New Castle and Olney this week.

W. H. Harris, of Garvin, is attending court this week.

A gentleman by name of Thompson had a leg broken at the oil mill yesterday.

Grandma Mecaskey last week fell and suffered a severe fracture of the hip. The injury is a serious one.

Come to see us at the New Racket store. We have what you want at the lowest price.

C. N. Workman of Willow Point has been appointed capital watchman by A. B. Conley.

J. W. Bryant, wide a wake farmer of the Slidell community, was here this week.

Don't eat poor bread. Use Royal Seal and Silk Finish flour and be happy. W. L. Dallas.

The condition of Mrs. J. L. Jeffries, who recently underwent an operation, is steadily improving.

Dr. and Mrs. B. O. Wilkerson of Chico, visited friends and relatives here last Friday and Saturday.

J. A. C. Watson and Miss Hattie Johnson were married in Decatur last Tuesday by Esquire T. H. Greer

Also Burton left Sunday for Palo Pinto, where he will take charge of a clothing store. Mrs. Burton will remain in Decatur till after Christmas.

The price is the thing that talks at the new racket store. We some time say a word to make a trade.

The splendid music at the Majestic is a strong feature there now, and the pictures are better than ever.

Baby coats in Teddy Bear and Plush all go at cost until January 1. at Bellah & Sons. See our ad in this paper.

Homemade work looks better, wears better and lasts better than factory work. Try one of our shop made saddles. Lillard & Co.

Mr. Homer Manning and Miss Velma Berry were married last Saturday morning at Carlton by Esq., H. H. Wells.

On Wednesday of last week, Mr Lee Meader and Miss Lizzie Mae Traister were married. Rev. W. B. Rhodes officiating.--Chico Review.

Mr. Fannie A-worth and Miss Ethel Mullins were married near Park Springs Sunday, Rev. Davis of Carlton, officiating.

Is it worth while across the street to save a nickel? You will save lots of them by trading at the new racket store.

Three things we believe in: high grade work, small profits and quick returns. Try a set of our harness. Lillard & Co.

Do not forget the Majestic in your Christmas glee. Call and look over the Christmas things on either Friday or Saturday nights. And then visit the picture show.

Now that we are to have free water for fire practice, why not reorganize the fire company and let the fire-fighters get in some practice?

Fonnie Ashworth of near Park Springs, had the misfortune to be thrown from a buggy last Thursday while returning from Decatur, and received a broken leg.

Last week, through M. D. Sellars, Pleas Foster received \$22 and Clyde Maiden \$27.52 as receipts for one week's shipment of cream.

Three things are necessary in the manufacture of the high grade saddles and harness. We make first-class stock; mechanical ability and the willingness to do the work all guaranteed. Lillard & Co.

B. M. Seagraves, one of the trustees of the flourishing school at Crafton attended the educational meeting here last Saturday.

Mrs. Rube Studdard who lived east of Chico, died last Sunday morning, and was buried in the afternoon of the same day. Mrs. Studdard was sick only a short time. She leaves a husband and several children.

Polytechnic basket ball team comes to Decatur next Monday, Dec. 19, for a game with Decatur high school at 3:15 p. m. Coach James St. Clair has a fast team at Poly this year, largely made up of Decatur high school team of last year. Come out everybody and see this, one of the best games of the season.

Decatur high school basket ball team took sweet revenge on their old rivals, the Bowie team, last Saturday by winning the two games played here. The scores were 27 to 12 and 38 to 13. The whole Decatur team played star ball, with Dallas deserving most mention for good work. Lindley led in goaling.

Miss Josie Martin was called by the Angel of Death at 6:30 o'clock Wednesday morning at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Walters, in this city. Burial took place with appropriate services Thursday afternoon in the family grave-yard near Jacksboro.--Bridgeport News.

Marriage licenses: Donie McDaniel to Miss Janie Lance; George Harlan to Miss Ruth Womack; W. W. Layfield to Miss Myrtle Wright; John Sharp to Miss Maudie Roberts; J. A. C. Watson to Miss Hattie Johnson; R. E. Collins to Miss Myrtle Cobb.

Miss Davilla Lynch of this city secured the handsome piano offered by the Fort Worth Record as first prize in this district. Miss Lynch also won the \$25 gold, a special prize for the district to the one getting the largest business for the last month. Messenger congratulate Miss Davilla upon her splendid work.

Last Saturday Mr. Mitchell of Weatherford, representing the "Chicago-Weatherford & Brazos Valley Railroad," and the railroad committee, composed of Messrs L. D. Kirkpatrick, L. E. Jones, A. B. Conley, Jr., W. H. Johns and Harry Hardy, representing the citizens of Bridgeport, met in this city and close the contract between Bridgeport and the road.--Bridgeport News.

Decatur college basket ball team returned Saturday from a trip thru Oklahoma in which they played seven games and won six. Bowie, Chickasha, Marlow and Rush Springs were the teams played. One game was lost to Chickasha by one score. The team stood the trip finely, and played good ball every day.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Five Cents per line per week

A DANDY good work mule for sale at a bargain. See J. N. CRABTREE at the New Racket Store.

WANTED--A girl to do house work. Good wages to right party. W. A. Helm.

TO TRADE--A modern six-room residence in Greenville to trade for Decatur property. Apply to H. T. ALLAND, at Lillard & Co.

FOR SALE--Rhode Island red cocks and pullets. FLOYD HELM.

FARM FOR SALE--One mile south Baptist college; 55 acres, good valley land; ideal for dairying; good 5 room house; good barn, orchard; good water and windmill. M. H. BELEW, route 2, Decatur. Independent phone, line 77. (o-1f)

LOST--Ladies black fur; return to Messenger office; reward.

AGENTS WANTED in every town to canvas and sell Bes-toy-all Baking Powder. No delivering or collecting. Good wages. National Food Co., Decatur, Texas.

FOR SALE--Pure bred Duroc jersey hogs; also bouborn red turkeys. GEO. W. SHORT. (4-1f)

FIRE, LIGHTNING, STORM--We write insurance on school houses, churches, farm residences, and most any kind of business risks. We write when others fail. See us. Bailey Bros.

Liberal Reward.

Strayed or stolen, five steers, branded half-circle 7 on right or left hip, or figure 4 on left hip.--W. M. Harris.

Last week Robert Carswell went to Fort Worth in response to an invitation, where he delivered an address before a union meeting of the B. Y. P. U. societies of that city. The reports are that the speech was excellent and was highly appreciated by a large crowd.

Collins--Cobb

Mr. Richard E. Collins, senior editor of the Messenger, and Miss Myrtle Cobb of Cleburne, were married at the home of the bride in that city on last Wednesday. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. S. S. Cobb, who, with her husband, resided in Decatur some years ago. Rev. Cobb was at the time pastor of the Methodist church here. Mr. and Mrs. Collins will arrive in Decatur next week, and will make their home in the Holley residence in South Decatur.

A Card of Thanks.

To our neighbors and friends of Decatur, who so kindly visited and assisted us during the sickness and death of our darling baby, we want to thank you for your kindness and words of sympathy. And also to those noble-hearted men, Drs. Reeves and Carpenter, for their unfailing kindness and attention. Also to Brother Ward for his words of cheer and comfort. We cannot express our appreciation. It was balm to our broken hearts. WADE AND VICTOR MASON.

Greenwood.

Mrs. Lillie Howard is visiting relatives in Greenwood.

Mrs. Dr. Knox is visiting her father, Mr. H. S. Fenwick.

Mr. John Sharp and Miss Maud Roberts were married in Greenwood Sunday afternoon, Rev. J. L. Johnson officiating.

Mr. Chas. Nash has returned to Decatur after a visit to relatives here.

Miss Myrtle Gage visited home folks here this week.

Most of the teachers in this community attended the institute at Decatur Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. McCormack visited relatives in Decatur Saturday.

Mr. J. G. Summar is back in Greenwood and has taken charge of the Rudd & Nesbit drug store.

Greenwood is going to have a Christmas tree at the Baptist church. All the Sunday schools are invited to take part.

We are sorry to learn that the little girl of Mrs. Jim Walker is sick with typhoid fever.

The farmers are happy over the rain. The wheat was suffering for rain.

The Maid's Excuse.

Pearl--I am shocked at you! The idea of flirting with a perfect stranger!

Ruby--But, dear, he isn't a perfect stranger. If he were perfect he wouldn't flirt.--Chicago News.

Date of the Row.

The Bachelor--Yes; she has threatened to make things unpleasant for him. The Benedict--Is that so? When are they going to be married?--Philadelphia Record.

The Professor's Dilemma.

Beneath the mistletoe she's fairly caught, And he perceives that she's a pretty miss.

His favorite theory all comes to naught, And he forgets the microbes in the kiss. --Judge.

THE BEST LESSON
A DOLLAR SAVED
IS A DOLLAR
EARNED

Start a Bank
account for your
boy. he will make
it grow. Teach him
to save. They all
begin early



No one's education is complete if he has not learned to save his hard-earned dollars. How many times in your life have you wished you had the money you knew you had thrown away foolishly.

Make OUR Bank YOUR Bank

City National Bank
OF DECATUR, TEXAS
Capital and Surplus - - - \$90,000.00

There's Some Style
About Our Buggies

We have just received
a car of the handsom-
est buggies ever seen
in Decatur. The variety
will please you, and the
snappiest, neatest and
nobbiest to be found in
any city; and the

Quality is Very Best

Only the best material
used, and the makeup
is first-class. See them.

Large stock wagons,
best on earth; made
for Texas farmers.

Our Prices and Terms Are Right

LILLARD & COMPANY

HE LIKED PENSIONS.

Drew Five of Them From Uncle Sam and Landed in Jail.

For many years there lived in Philadelphia a negro veteran of the war between the states named Dee Wilton Laws, the janitor of the G. A. R. headquarters. His duties in this connection occupied a part of his time. The rest of it was pretty well occupied in drawing four pensions. One of them was his own, but the others were those of other men—two dead, one living. Being rather keen on pensions, Laws furthermore had his wife draw an annuity which was not rightfully hers, making five pensions in the family.

Laws and his wife lived in the south end of Philadelphia, where for several years there resided with them an old negro pensioner named Robinson and his wife, Susan. Robinson died. His widow, Susan, began to draw the pension. Then she died. The pension bureau never heard of Susan Robinson's death, for Mrs. Dee Wilton Laws could sign a voucher just as well as Susan Robinson herself. So for four years the government every three months handed Annie Laws a snug little sum on account of the fact that an old negro named Robinson had once served in the army.

Dee Wilton long lived happily in receipt of his own annuity and of the pensions which the government thought it was paying to William Lewis and James O. Barks, both of whom were dead, and of George Harrison, a feeble minded veteran in the almshouse. Laws received his various checks at different addresses, the homes of friends of his. He cashed the checks at the saloon of Johnny Ullman, Ninth and Locust streets, and at the shop of a clothing dealer in South street.

Eventually the pension commissioner was informed. It was an easy matter, once attention was directed at the rascal, to convict him. His sentence was three years in the federal prison at Atlanta, where he languishes today. Annie Laws got away. No one suspected her. The investigation of her husband was not extended to include his family.—World's Work.

Beautiful Buenos Aires.

In ten years miracles have been wrought in beautifying the great city of Buenos Aires, down in the Argentine Republic. More than 142,000 trees have been planted. By the side of the waving tropic palm rears the stately pine. More than eighty small parks of exquisite beauty have been opened in various parts of the city. This work has been under the direction of Senor Carlo Thays, who will live in the hearts of future generations of his lovely city long after the military heroes and financial chieftains of his country are forgotten. The masterpiece of Senor Thays is the Plaza del Congreso, in the heart of the metropolis. Anybody who wants to see an American park system as it ought to be should board a steamer for the Argentines.—New York Press.

Linden Trees in New York.

"New Yorkers may now boast of two tiny avenues of Berlin lindens, the trees that have made Unter den Linden in Berlin one of the famous streets of the world," said a man interested in tree lore. "These Berlin lindens may be seen on either end of the new library building on Fifth avenue, ten of the trees being planted in a double row at each end. These trees belong to an importation which came over eight years ago for the country place of a New Yorker. About the time some trees were needed for the library this man found he could spare a few and the deal was closed, to the great satisfaction of those in charge of the library grounds. These trees are noticeable for their uniformity of size and shape and set off the building to advantage."—New York Sun.

Metal in Violins.

Violin making is an ancient art, yet new things may be learned about it. Two makers of musical instruments, one in Brussels, the other in Boston, have recently announced their belief that the material of an instrument has nothing to do with its tone. One of them made experiments only with wind instruments, but the other tried innovations in violins and violoncellos, substituting tin and aluminum for post and bridge, with an actual improvement in tone. It is his belief that distribution of mass is far more important to good tone than the material used. This theory is contrary to all previous opinions on the subject and if true will wipe out much of the romance of the search for and treasuring of old violin timber.—Youth's Companion.

The Newest Slang.

It will probably not be long before an expression just starting along the thoroughfares of the town becomes an essential part of the language. It will take the place of the "Oh, give us a rest!" of a few years ago. When the person you are listening to as patiently as you can soars a little beyond your ability to digest the present moment method of starting him toward earth and reason is to say to him, "Glide,

kid, your motor's missing." Tribune

Gray's Churchyard

Those who recall Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" will remember that the peaceful spot where "the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep" is identified with St. Giles' Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire. This historic burial place has just been the subject of an order by the local council. The decree is that ordinary interments are henceforth forbidden in the churchyard.—London Standard.

MAKES PARIS LAUGH.

A Ticket War Between the Buses and Their Patrons.

The company that runs the omnibuses in Paris has recently put into effect a system of giving tickets to passengers when they pay their fares. And this has caused a howl from the traveling public. It is not that the public objects to the tickets. What it is annoyed about is the too frequent visits of inspectors demanding to see the tickets. Some persons are making life a burden to the inspectors, delaying the buses and making all Paris laugh. One of them saves every ticket he gets, and as he goes about the city constantly he has a pocket full of them. Every time he gets on a bus, pays his fare and receives a ticket he simply adds it to his collection. When the inspector enters and cries "Tickets!" the man draws forth his collection and holds it out to the inspector.

A dialogue something like this follows: "What's all this?" "Tickets." "What for?" "I don't know." "Then why do you hand them to me?" "Because you asked for them." "I didn't ask for all these. I want your ticket for this bus." "You have it." "Where?" "In that bunch." "But I don't want this bunch. I want your ticket." "Then pick it out." "That is not my business." "Nor is it mine." "Why do you keep all these tickets?" "Because it says on them, 'On no account lose this ticket or throw it away.'" "But it is of no use after it has once been used." "I know nothing about that. I am simply doing what your company tells me." "Well, I haven't time to argue with you. Are you going to hand me your ticket?" "I have already done so." The colloquy generally ends in the inspector leaving the bus in a bad temper.—London Globe.

HER PLUCK WON.

Turkish Officials Couldn't Intimidate This American Woman.

When Dr. Mary Eddy, the only woman physician in Turkey, tried to secure the right to practice in the Ottoman empire she had to face an examination by a score of the most distinguished doctors of the country she was trying to invade. She is of American parentage, but was brought up in Syria.

The first question was in French and uttered in a contemptuous tone, "Who are you?" To the astonishment of her examiners she answered in the Arabic language, "I am of you and from among you."

She was examined without intermission for six hours, says Success. Tired with receiving correct answers one of the inquisitors in the hope of intimidating her called out, "That answer is wrong."

She asked for certain medical books and with striking calmness said, "If all these authors do not sustain my answer I will withdraw my application to practice medicine." Her American pluck won her the day, and she was given the long desired privilege.

She is now devoting her life to the curing of blindness, a disease to which the Moslems fall easy prey on account of the shifting sands lifted and blown easily about by the winds. Her services during the Armenian massacres have given her a place in the hearts of the natives second only to that of their prophet, Mohammed.

Aviator Cord and Wire.

The arrival of the aeroplane has given us a new industry, or rather a modification of an old one—namely, that of manufacturing aviator cord and aviator wire. The Roebblings have devised a special kind of wire aviator cord to be used for stays on aeroplanes. The cord consists of a number of fine wires of great strength stranded together. The strength of the different sizes runs approximately from 2,000 to 2,300 pounds. For steering gear a more flexible cord is provided, composed of six strands of seven wires each, with a center of either cotton or wire. The aviator wire differs from aviator cord in that it consists of a single wire instead of a number of wires twisted together. The wire is made in twelve sizes, with a breaking strength that varies from 2,000 pounds to 175.—Scientific American.

A Land of Hotels.

Those who know Switzerland best will be least astonished at the figures which M. A. Danzat publishes in his work on Switzerland, recently issued in Paris, for since there is a hotel on nearly every hilltop and scores round every one of the larger lakes it is more

THE BARGAIN HOUSE Extends Christmas Greetings

To our many patrons who so kindly remembered us during the past year, and we come again, begging the people to remember us when in quest of PRESENTS FOR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES. . .

We once more have a beautiful line of Holiday Chinaware, Individual Cups and Saucers, Cake Sets, Table Sets, Tea Sets, Salad Bowls from 15c to \$1.75, cake plates of many designs, and some genuine hand-painted for only 75c. We have many other attractive things. Call and see our line.

The Bargain House is the Place

R. L. BLANKENSHIP, . . PROPRIETOR

than credible that there are 2,000 hotels in the twenty-two cantons. In the Grisons, the most sparsely inhabited canton, in which even the larger towns rarely have a population of more than 1,500, there are no less than 358 hotels and boarding houses, while the canton of Berne, which includes such favorite places as Interlaken, Thun and Grindelwald, has more than 400. There are 135,000 beds in the 2,000 hotels, but these are by no means sufficient during the "haute saison," when many a tired tourist is glad to get a bed made up on the billiard table.—Dundee Advertiser.

Passing of the Silk Hat.

There are comparatively few silk hats worn in London today, and the average man makes his dress headwear last three times as long as he did formerly, for the simple reason that he uses it much less frequently, says a London dispatch. Of course everybody who is anybody possesses this at one time indispensable and still fashionable article, but it is used only for ceremonial occasions and is not often seen, even in Piccadilly or the park.

FOR THE CHILDREN

Fun With Problems.

Write these problems on paper, distribute them among your friends and see how many can answer them promptly and correctly:

First.—What two numbers multiplied together will produce seven?

Second.—How may four fives be placed so as to make six and a half?

Third.—What is the difference between twice twenty-five and twice five and twenty?

Fourth.—Divide the number fifty into such parts that if the greater part be divided by seven and the lesser by three to quotient in each case will be the same.

Fifth.—If you have a piece of cloth containing fifty yards and wish to cut into fifty one-yard pieces, how many days will it take you to do so if you cut one yard a day?

Here are the answers:

First.—The two numbers are seven and one.

Second.—The figure 5, the fraction 5/5 and the decimal fraction .5.

Third.—Twice twenty-five are fifty. Twice five and twenty are thirty.

Fourth.—The two parts are thirty-five and fifteen.

Fifth.—Forty-nine days—not fifty days.

Plague Stones.

Travelers on English roads here and there come upon the remains of old stone crosses, generally at no great distance from some village or town. In many instances the cross itself has disappeared, leaving only its pedestal with the small cavity in the top for the shaft of the cross. At periods when terrible epidemics have raged in country towns these stones have been used by the sufferers when seeking to communicate with those free from the disease. The practice was as follows: The market people placed near the stone their different wares and retired to a distance, while those from the afflicted towns came out and put on the stone money to the value of what they wished to take. Sometimes this money was dropped into the cavity that the rainwater, generally lying there, might clean it. On returning to their homes the market folk came again and took the payment left for them; hence these remains of older monuments have acquired the name of plague stones.

Read it in the Messenger.



J. E. BOYD, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE

Office now at Courthouse with County Treasurer.

I want your insurance business. List your Real Estate with me, or let me sell you a good farm. A "SQUARE DEAL" is my motto.

J. E. BOYD



CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

We want to call your attention to the fact that we have hundreds and hundreds of things to select your Xmas presents from. We have not had time to tell you about them in this ad. But want you to come and see our large stock before you make your selection. Especially do we ask you to see our Xmas rockers. Best line ever shown in Decatur at prices 20 percent less than same goods sold last year.

Do Not Fail To Come
Peninger, Helm & Dillehay
Decatur, Texas.

IN THE REALM OF FASHION

A Useful Garment.

The vogue of one piece frocks has brought the long coat again into strong favor, and many, indeed, are its varieties. The picture shows one designed for many occasions. Such a coat will give excellent service for the winter, as it may be worn in the motorcar and yet will not look out of place on the



OF WIDE WALE DIAGONAL.

street. It may also be worn as an evening wrap when desired. The mode is of heavy wide wale diagonal, made on rather close fitting lines. The collar and deep cuffs, which give the air of chic to the wrap, are of lynx. The side fastening is also new and very good.

The little hat, which is just the thing to wear with such a wrap, is one of the new imported veious.

The New Beaded Blouse.

Some of the beaded blouses are works of art. For instance, one of white chiffon is made soft and full, but guileless of tuck or plait or scrap of lace. Its one adornment is a plastron of bead embroidery, so artfully wrought that it suggests the work of some wizard gem worker. The design is that of a necklace, a light strand of small light colored beads around the neck from which hang pendants of beads of graduated size and varied shape, small round pale pink coral, square gold beads and long oval drops of green and blue. The effect is striking as well as artistically beautiful in design and coloring, and it is not surprising that so high a price as \$30 is asked for this handful of fluff and needlework.

THE BUTTERFLY AS AN ORNAMENT

it is One of the Foremost Motifs of the Season.

Butterfly motifs are very much the fashion. The corsage of one evening dress shows a butterfly drapery in shaded green and blue metal cloth. It was as an ornament pure and simple that the pretty insect, in all its exquisite and radiant beauty, was first introduced. That was months ago. There was a positive obsession for insects then.

Women wore beetles' wing embroideries, perched dragon flies poised upon trembling wires in their hair, secured their hats on their heads by means of butterfly headed pins. A fancy arose for wearing butterfly brooches and pendants made of translucent enamels set with gems, and then, still more wonderful, came the butterfly imprisoned in crystal and used in various practical and ornamental ways, from a paper weight to a pendant.

Next into publicity came the butterfly's connection with dress, and the new development of the old idea is the phase we are invited to welcome now.

The butterfly is noticeable under the fresh regime, inasmuch as entirely different materials are used for its making. Enamel, tinted horn, gold, silver and platinum with a setting of pre-

cious stones—the obvious means, in fact, whereby the butterfly can be represented—are set aside now by lace, fur and embroideries. The incongruity of a butterfly made of silk and fur would have discounted the success of the scheme had too close a resemblance to nature been attempted. It was the suggestion of the beautiful fly that was so acceptable and so convincing, and the suggestion was secured by the shape of the bow, which was like the butterfly's wings, and the poise thereof, which was that of the creature at rest upon a flower.

HINTS FOR THE BUSY HOUSEWIFE

New House Cleaner Handy For Many Purposes.



An improved type of house cleaner has been invented by a Pennsylvania man. It is a mop with an attachment by which it can be wrung dry by the turning of a crank and a device which holds it spread out on the floor. There is a long handle, of course, with a metal holder at the bottom. The cloth is removably attached to this holder by wires, and the lower part of the holder is so hinged that it follows the movement of the mop. Thus when the cleaner is swabbed over the floor this section of the apparatus holds it flat and permits it to be used with much more effectiveness than when it is necessary to poke it about in a lump. The upper end of the cloth is attached to a beveled gear, which is operated by a crank. When the mop is to be wrung out the crank is turned and the gear twists the cloth tightly. A thumbscrew lock on the crank shaft prevents the crank from turning at other times. This cleaner is useful not only on floors, but on ceilings, walls and windows.

Household Helps.

Always cream sugar and butter before adding other ingredients. Add the eggs next unless the whites are beaten in separately. If so, add whites last.

Always sift flour before measuring. Level with a knife after, and sift baking powder with flour, the oftener the better.

See that the oven is just right. If it is too cool cake will rise too much and then fall. If too hot, it will bake on top before it has risen enough, crack open and run over.

One may take paint spots from windows by moistening a coin and then rubbing over the spot.

Clean bottles with eggshells, and they become delightfully clear.

Pumpkin Pie.

To one cupful of stewed and sifted pumpkin add one tablespoonful of melted butter, one teaspoonful of flour, one-half teaspoonful each of ginger and salt, four tablespoonfuls of sugar, one tablespoonful of New Orleans molasses and the beaten yolks of two eggs. In separate dish heat one and one-half cupfuls of milk, to which add a little nutmeg and cinnamon and one teaspoonful of vanilla, after which stir into the pumpkin mixture. Just before pouring into the pie tin add the beaten whites of two eggs and sprinkle a little brown sugar on top, with a few bits of butter. Bake about fifteen minutes.

Glazed Onions.

Eighteen small onions, two heaping tablespoonfuls of butter, two tablespoonfuls of stock, half an ounce of glaze, one tablespoonful of sugar and seasoning of salt and pepper. Remove the skins from the onions and throw them into boiling water for six minutes, then drain; heat the butter until brown, then fry the onions a light brown color, add the stock, sugar, glaze and seasoning and simmer until tender. Dish and pour round the gravy.

Apple Custard Pie.

Stew a few apples same as for apple sauce or use apple sauce left over. Line a deep plate as for a custard pie and fill with the apple sauce, sweetened and flavored to taste, then beat the white of one egg stiff with confectioners' sugar, flavor and frost

the top of pie. Brown lightly in the oven. Bake the crust before filling with the apple sauce.

To Make Firm Flesh.

To make the flesh clear, smooth and firm this formula is said to have been used by many of the maidens who accompanied Marie Antoinette in prison: Equal parts of white vinegar and benzoin. Steep the mixture eight days and then strain and bottle. A small quantity can be used in the bath.

Sweetbreads.

Soak sweetbreads for twenty minutes in cold salted water, then drop into boiling water and add a spoonful of lemon juice. When cooked drain well and drop into boiling deep fat. Fry until brown. Cover with a cream sauce and serve with border of green peas.

Care of Fine Woods.

Mahogany and other hard woods can be kept in good condition by wiping off with a chamois skin wrung from cold water and immediately polishing with a dry piece of chamois.

SELECT CULLINGS

The Indian of Today.

The progress made by the Indian during the past fifteen years has been greater than in any similar period. He has advanced in civilization and acquired a working knowledge of various arts and industries which help to provide for his maintenance. Twenty-five per cent more Indians are self supporting than ten years ago, more than this number speak enough English for ordinary purposes, and there are no tribes idle. Many red men are engaged in lumbering, mining, working on railroads, digging irrigation ditches, and most of them wear citizens' clothes. At the agencies all the Indians are dressed in this way, and the return of large numbers of young Indians clothed as white men is gradually wearing away the prejudices of the older Indians who remain at home while the children are at school.—Progress Magazine.

Engagement Cards.

"Now, whose baby is it?" asked a young girl as she observed the tiny envelope that had been handed to her from the morning post. She could feel the knot of ribbon and the tiny attached card through the envelope.

"Well, if this isn't the cutest thing I ever saw!" she cried. "It isn't a baby at all. It's an engagement announcement, and since it's Gwendolyn's, it surely must be the very latest wrinkle."

On the miniature card was the single word, engraved in old English, "Betrothed." On a card just beneath it and fittingly insignificant in size was the name of the fiance, while on the largest card of all was the full name of the bride to be. The three were tied together with a bowknot of white satin ribbon.—New York Press.

A Great Scenic Highway.

The finest scenic highway in western America for automobilists, drivers, equestrians and all other classes of tourists who scorn the railway's rattle, haste and smoke is now under construction by the British Columbia government. By this time next year it will be completed at a cost of for new links of connecting road, new bridges and extensive repairs to established trunk roads—approximately \$1,000,000 or \$1,250,000. This new road system is to continue for 1,200 miles with a single unavoidable interruption, where ferry is taken across the gulf of Georgia from Campbell river, far up Vancouver island, to Crow's Nest pass, at the summit of the Rockies.—Argonaut.

New York's Pushcarts.

If all the pushcarts, street stands and wagons engaged in the peddling business in New York city were placed end to end in one unbroken line they would reach from the Battery to Yonkers, a distance of seventeen miles. There are thousands upon thousands of them, and they deal in almost everything, from a paper of pins to a house and lot; from a pair of shoe laces to the complete furnishings for a household. Approximately 120,000 men, women and children are dependent upon the pushcart business for a livelihood. The business done has been conservatively estimated at more than \$5,000,000 a year.—New York World.

Life Insurance For Dogs.

The people of Frankfort, Germany, have thought of a beautiful plan for making money. They have started a company to insure the lives of dogs. Henceforth when a Frankforter gets hard up he has only to purchase a dog with a quarrelsome disposition, insure its life for a good round amount and turn it loose in the neighborhood of some dog that has a better fighting grip than his own. If the Frankforters can escape the notice of humane societies and of dog lovers who might consider this insurance scheme a mean trick on the friend of man they may make a goodly profit out of their pets.



Did You Know
Santa Claus
had unloaded
his Pack at the
- - New - -
Racket Store

We have the Xmas goods that will please you; all kinds of toys, games and fireworks for the little folks, and some nice things that will please the grownfolks.

You will miss it if you fail to come to see us.
We make the prices that pay you to come.

NEW RACKET STORE

J. N. CRABTREE & CO.

Messenger Old Stand - - - Decatur, Texas

J. C. McCRACKEN

F. M. TUCKER

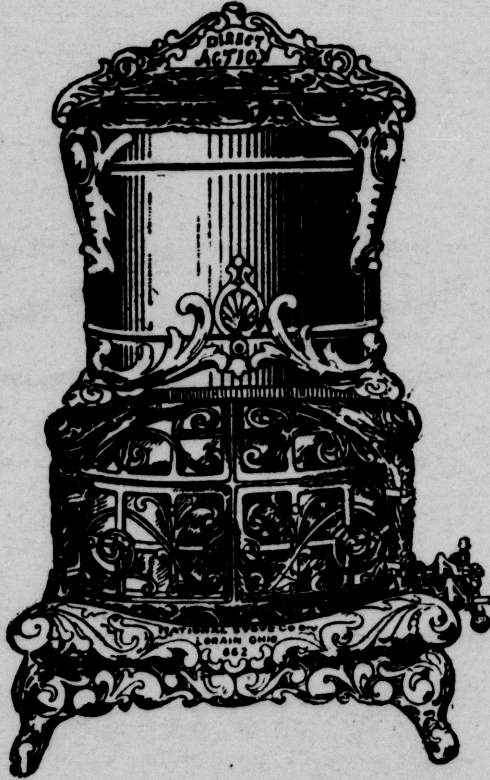
NEW GROCERY STORE

We have bought the Snyder stock of groceries near the Fields livery stable. We are putting in a fresh and complete stock of groceries, also all kinds of FEED. We solicit a share of your trade. Respectfully

McCRACKEN & TUCKER

"Direct Action"

GAS HEATERS



We have in stock now a full line of the celebrated "Direct Action" Gas Heaters. If you want a gas heater that will cut your gas bill down, buy one of these heaters. We also have a full line of the asbestos-lined back heaters, and would be pleased if you would call and see our line before you buy. Remember our "Direct Action" heaters have the best safety valve made. No others like it.

Lillard & Co

Dr. A. C. Bramlett,
Physician and Surgeon

OFFICE with Drs. Embry & Ford, Southwest corner square---up-stairs

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Estimates furnished free. Write or see me at

DECATUR, - - TEXAS

Sam M'c Shop

Tonsorial Parlor

The best artists in the profession in Decatur are found here. Clean and up-to-date in every particular, and polite and courteous treatment at all times. Drop in and see us.

TOM GREER TOM McCRACKEN

McCracken & Greer,

Real Estate--Rental Agents

Ranch Lands, Farms and City Property for sale or trade.

List Your Real Estate Here

COLLECTING AGENCY.

Office in court house, first floor

Dr. Cox's Barbed Wire Liniment does not burn or blister, relieves pain quickly, and flies will not bother the wound. For sale by all druggists.

In Spain boys under sixteen are not allowed to lift or carry more than six pounds.

Notice.

I have moved my tailoring establishment to the Rogers' building, west Main street, where I want my old customers and new ones to call. The best of work done with promptness. HUGH GREER, The Tailor.

What Shall I Give for Christmas?

This is the uppermost thought in the minds of Xmas shoppers

THE MISSISSIPPI STORE

Offers hundreds of useful articles which are suitable and appropriate for Christmas Gifts. Why not give a present which will be appreciated, and which can be put to practical use? Below we mention a few of the many articles to be found in our large stock of goods, any one of which would make a handsome and useful Christmas present.

A hand bag	A purse		Necklaces	Hair goods
Kid gloves	Belts of all Kinds		Doilies	Center pieces
Back combs	Hair pins		Millinery goods	Fancy hat pins
Belt pins	Fancy collars		Ladies' skirts	Tailored suits
Neckties	Fancy hair ribbon		Lace curtains	Table linen
Fancy silk hose	Battenburg fancy work		Woolen dress patterns	All wool shalley
Head wraps, all colors	Barretts		Men's shirts	A pretty tie
Fancy hankkrchiefs in	Christmas boxes		Hose supporters	Cotton handkerchiefs
Pictures in same	Sweaters		Cuff buttons	Mufflers
Newest cloaks	Parasols		Pair Overgaiters	Silk handkerchiefs
Baby caps	Linen towels		Suit of underwear	Pair of gloves
Fancy quilts	Art squares		Fancy vests	Silk hose
Rugs	Toques		Wool overshirts	Suspenders
Suit cases	Trunks		Hats	Caps
Silk dress patterns	Worsted dress patterns		Men's sweaters	Boys' sweaters
Head throws	Hair nets		Pair trousers	Suit of clothes
Silk and cotton underskirts,	Dress patterns		Pair house slippers	Pair of blankets
			Pair boots	Pair bootees
			Overcoats	Union suits

We made very heavy purchases in all lines of Dry Goods early in the year when they were much below the present market value, and offer them to you accordingly. We could not possibly give you such values as we now offer you had we not been fortunate in placing our orders early.

Our entire line of Ladies' and Misses' Trimmed
HATS AT COST during this Christmas Sale

MISSISSIPPI STORE

S. A. LILLARD, PROPRIETOR

Northeast Corner Square

Decatur, Texas

The Victor.

Cassidy—Harrigan was around th' day braggin' about th' b'atin' he gev Finnegan last Monda'.

Casey—Last Monda'? Shure, that's near a week ago. 'Tis a wonder he wasn't around sooner.

Cassidy—Aye, but it seems he only recovered from it this mornin'.—Catholic Standard and Times.

Evidently Not a Bargain.

Judith—What would you think of a fellow who waits till the night after Christmas before he proposes?

Mabel—I should consider him a left over present that somebody didn't want.—Boston Herald.

And Several of Them.

"Do you ever get the last word in an argument with your wife?"

"Always."

"That is surprising."

"Not at all. I get it from her."—Stray Stories.

Bad Run.

Redd—Brown said he had another run of hard luck.

Greene—Oh, has he got an automobile too?—Yonkers Statesman.

Where Lusk.

"Did you ever figure in a lawsuit?"

"Nope. I just paid bills in one. My lawyers did the figuring."—Cleveland Leader.

Variable.

A good pointer: The weather vane—sometimes a disappointment. Still, it has its good points.

Good Practice.

"Yes, sir," said a garrulous barber, "I was a ship's barber on a Pacific steamship for five years and was wrecked and cast away on an island in the south seas. I lived there for two years and never saw a human being, but when I was rescued I flatter myself I was a better shampooer than ever. I kept in practice all the time."

"How did you manage it?" asked the patron.

"I shampooed the cocoanuts."—London Tit-Bits.

Doubtful Surgery.

Hurry became at length a malignant growth, causing civilization no small inconvenience.

"Cut it out!" the cry thereupon went up, for it was like the unthinking mob to seize upon the most obvious expedient.

But wiser heads entertained misgivings. Would civilization survive so serious an operation?—Puck.

Notice.

The state furnishes blank vouchers to teachers and requires them to make out with pen and ink.

Here after I shall not approve teachers' vouchers unless made out with pen and ink, and all blanks must be properly filled.

Banks will save time and trouble by refusing to take up vouchers unless they are properly made out.

D. J. SIMPSON,

County Supt.

New car Moon & Banner buggies just received by Peninger, Helm & Dillehey.

Poultry Pointers.

Dark pin feathers give a dirty appearance to a dressed carcass.

A hen's appetite bears directly upon her egg production. Exercise gives it zest.

Shift your henyard about every year or two. The chicks will do better and keep healthier.

Two kinds of chickens will do to kill—those that haven't begun to lay and those that have quit.

Let farmers take more interest in exhibiting poultry at the county and state fairs. Pure bred fowls will advertise your farm.

If you wish your hens to lay well next spring it will be advisable to provide range for them. This can be done by planting a winter crop for their benefit.

Turn the poultry into the garden, if possible, during the last fall days. If the ground is plowed let them run over it before seeding. They will destroy quantities of insects.

Sow a small piece of rye or wheat near the poultry house to give your fowls late and early greens. In very stormy weather feed equal parts of corn, wheat, oats and beef meal ground together as a mash.

Gunner—Percy Pinwood took part in the amateur theatricals last night.

Guyer—Indeed! Were there any prompters back of the scenes?

Gunner—I should say so. Percy caught sight of his tailor coming through the wings, and it prompted him to jump through the bass drum.

USE

PRICKLY ASH BITTERS

FOR

INDIGESTION, CONSTIPATION,
KIDNEY TROUBLE.

IT CLEANSES AND INVIGORATES.

Sold by Druggists.
Price \$1.00 per bottle.

C. B. Gunn, Special Agent

Wise County Messenger